

PALESTINE SOLUTIONS

4

Interviews:

Oi Polloi
Bliss
Fuel

\$1.50

Articles on the Palestinian Struggle, Canada's role in the Mid-East, Toxic dumping in the developing world, native rights, animal rights, poetry, art, and more

N E W S P A P E R A D

INTRODUCTION Below is a copy of the text which we will be placing in **DIARIO LATINO**, a Salvadorean daily newspaper. The size of the article will be one full page which will cost \$250.00. Please read over the ad, if you decide to support the campaign sign your name and the date at the bottom of the page. We would like to request \$10.00 from each organization which signs the document to assist us in the publication costs. Those who had signed our Human Rights declaration in September - October 1989 which was cancelled due to the November 1989 offensive are not requested to pay the fee. We thank you for your support. This project will mainly be carried out in the Ontario region.

A D :

Given that:

1. In El Salvador a negotiation process is being carried on between the Salvadorean government and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, with the United Nations intermediary, aimed at achieving peace and democracy.
2. In the meeting which took place from the 20th to 25th July 1990, the government of Alfredo Cristiani signed an agreement to respect human rights and in which committed itself to suspend all capturing, torturing and murders and to respect freedom of expression.
3. The universal declaration of human rights envisages freedom of expression and the free circulation of information.

Therefore,

1. We demand that the government of El Salvador suspend immediately and definitively the interference which, for the past nine years, it has been emitting on the signals of Radio Farabundo Marti and Radio Venceremos.
2. We demand that the Salvadorean government respect the free circulation of information and not repress those who broadcast opposing or critical ideas.

Signed, _____

Date, _____

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Moral Suckling.....No More War Toys
Mr. Nobody.....Mrs. Harp' s Brownies
Profax.....ep
Soup Dragons.....I' m Free
Swiz.....Hell Yes I Cheated
Victim' s Family.....White Bread Blues
V/A.....Frosty the Water Puddle
V/A.....Murders Among Us

Paul - Recent releases demanding attention:

Accused.....Grinning Like an Undertaker
Asbestos Death.....Unclean
Bad Religion.....Against the Grain
Cringer/Hopeful Monsters.....ep
Force Fed.....Full up and loaded
F.U.A.L.....lp
Gorilla Biscuits.....Start Today
Oi Polloi.....In Defense of our Earth
Oi Polloi.....Outraged by the Atomic Menace
Resist.....ep
Section 46.....By Myself demo
Swiz.....Hell Yes I Cheated
Victim' s Family.....White Bread Blues

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DRASTIC SOLUTIONS

From the Pulpit

Welcome to issue #4. First off, I'd like to address the criticism I recieved as a result of issue #3. The first concerns reviews. As I stated in issue #2, we will not be doing reviews in this zine. The reasons are as such. There are many other zines that feature exhaustive and current review sections. Maximumrock'n'roll, Flipside, not to mention the overwhelmingly comprehensive Factsheet Five are but a few. If it's reviews yer after, buy one of those publications. This zine is concerned with ideas, attitudes, and opinions, not the perpetuation of consumerism. Being able to put out a zine is considered by us to be a privilege and our space is valuable. We wish to avoid the repetition of reviews that occurs with other zines and instead focus on what the band members have to say. If any bands want to send demos, records, etc for airplay, both Stephen and I do radio shows on CHRY FM.

The next concern is with regard to the layout and aesthetics of the zine. There does seem to be a segment of the hardcore scene that thinks that in order for a zine to be really punk, it must be messy in terms of layout. To me it's like saying that every punk should have a mohawk. The "punkness" of any alternative publication is to be found in the zine's content, not in the way that information is presented. Many long and hard hours are put into *Drastic Solutions*. The contributors do not get paid, the zine is non-profit, and the spirit is D.I.Y. We are committed to featuring underground bands and offering alternative ideas. We do have access to professional layout equipment, cameras, etc. that allow us to present the information in a highly readable format. I don't believe that this should lessen the impact, importance or sincerity of what we are stating.

I first decided to put out *Drastic Solutions* in order to get across some personal ideas that I had. My concerns were, and are, many, and the first issue reflects, I think, the variety of those concerns. It was my sincere hope then, as it is now, that others would communicate and use *Drastic Solutions* as a forum for the expression of their ideas. The zine has experienced a shift in balance from a mainly music oriented zine to a more informational one. This was my initial intention, and I'm pleased that these objectives are finally being realized. With the movement from reprints to the self-production of ideas, the personal communication element is coming to the fore. Personalized information demonstrates how the system affects us in everyday life. In this issue, Mary tells us of her travels to Kahnawake and we find out how Oka concerns all of us. Rob exposes the first world environmental facade with his article on toxic dumping in the developing world. Steve expresses his concern in his column about Canada's potential role in the Middle East. And I'll be discussing the implications that Zionism has had on the Palestinian struggle, in the Middle East and elsewhere.

We fully intend to continue the zine in the format that you have before you. Any contributions of articles, graphics, and ideas are welcomed.

Reverend Paul



Front Cover:

Israeli soldiers beat a Palestinian youth in Ramallah, occupied West Bank.

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Drastic Solutions #3 still available.

Interviews with Sons of Ishmael, Malhavoc, Friends of Music, and Brotherhood. 24 pages - offset. \$2.00 postage paid.

Recycle

This magazine was printed on 100% post consumer recycled paper with vegetable based ink.

DRASTIC SOLUTIONS
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CANADA



Israel, Zionism, and the Palestinian struggle for freedom

By Paul Abrash

In this issue, I'd like to discuss Israel, the Middle East, and the Zionist solution to the Palestinian "problem". This column has been motivated by a long-standing concern for Arabs suffering under Israeli domination in the region. I have followed the turbulent events that have rocked the Middle East and changed its political and geographical landscape. I have watched with horror how Israeli aggression has turned some of the most beautiful cities on earth into rubble and littered its streets with Arab corpses, and I have read and listened with disbelief at the lies told by the mainstream media, manipulated by the Israeli's into justifying their massacres. For these reasons I have felt a need to write.

There have been several events recently which deserve attention, discussion and most of all, factual reporting. The Temple Mount slaughter - an unprovoked attack on Palestinian worshippers by Israeli soldiers which has received the usual media distortion; The Science Centre boycott fiasco, which stirred Jewish rights groups into a frenzy and resulted in the dismissal of the Centre's director; and Operation Exodus, the fundraising campaign designed to populate the West Bank with reluctant Soviet Jewish emigres. These issues all deserve much more attention than I can give them here, and I would urge you to seek out the truth about what's going on in the Middle East. Locate alternative media outlets and use their

resources. Books/pamphlets/publications I found useful in writing this column were: Israel - An Apartheid State, written by Uri Davis, Palestinians: From Peasants to Revolutionaries, by Rosemary Sayigh, Palestine Focus, Covert Action Information Bulletin, Now Magazine, Ecomedia, and Israel: A Colonial Settler State?, by Maxime Rodinson. Much good literature can be found at the Pathfinder bookstore located at 410 Adelaide West Suite 400 in Toronto.

In this all too brief column, I should like to discuss the Zionist movement, whose leading supporters and writers have been foretelling for decades the events unfolding in the region today; For those of you unfamiliar with the history of the Palestinian struggle, I will outline the sequence of events that have lead to the current crisis; Finally I hope to expose the hypocrisy and media distortion that has surrounded Operation Exodus, the most recent Zionist plan for Arab genocide.

If this column is strongly worded, it is because I feel so passionate about the plight of those suffering under Israeli occupation. The writer of these words in no way intends to slander Jewish people, I fully recognize that much of the opposition to current Israeli practices comes from anti-Zionist Jews both within Israel and abroad. The focus and anger of this column is directed at the destabilizing force in the region and the root of the destruction in the Middle East - a fascist, racist, right-wing Israeli regime, bent on ridding the area of any Arab presence. I pray that this column promotes discussion, for only through communication can the barriers of misunderstanding, ignorance and hate be broken down.

Zionism

Zionist publicist Uri Harari, writing on 'Our Responsibility Towards the Jews in the Arab Countries' (Feb. 1969), illustrated the Zionist world-view and it's goal to populate Israel with Jews-only, regardless of



their (the Jewish emigrees) wishes, and at any cost. Harari commented, "[Zionism] assumes the eternal hatred of the Jews by the Gentile, irrespective of how liberal the Gentile may be... We have to save the Jews from Arab countries, to act with all our might to get the gates of Eastern European countries opened. We must create in this country possibilities for the absorption of [Jewish] immigrants from Western countries." (1).

Current Israeli policy with regard to the occupied territories makes it clear that these "possibilities" are being brought about by force. The Operation Exodus campaign is the result of this line of thinking, and proves beyond a doubt that a Zionist blueprint for the expulsion of Arabs from Israel's borders has always existed. More than twenty years ago, Harari posed questions that must be addressed today. He wrote "...does the state of Israel have duties towards Jews who can immigrate into the country and do not wish to do so? Furthermore, do we have the right to tell them, 'We know better than you what is good for you, and we shall therefore act to get you to immigrate into the country; we might even act in order to facilitate the deterioration of your situation so that you will have no other choice but to immigrate into Israel.'" (2). In light of the Operation Exodus, Harari's words are truly prophetic, as we shall examine later.

History

The number of people that are unaware of the crisis in the Middle East, specifically the Palestinian struggle, is not all that surprising. Given the lies that the public are fed, the level of ignorance with the regard to the Intifada is understandable. In a recent U.S. poll, 26% of all Americans had never heard of the Intifada. The problem is not merely the lack of information, but the kind of information that is released and the way it is presented. In the same poll, 57% of Americans viewed the PLO as a terrorist organization, instead of a liberation movement. This, as well, is hardly surprising, considering the media's portrayal of Palestinian liberationists. Taking all this into account, I think that this might be a good place to pause and give a brief account of their struggle.

In 1947 the United Nations determined to divide Palestine into two parts. This decision was made following continued pressure by Zionist groups for a homeland. There is no doubt that sympathy gained from Nazi treatment of Jews in WWII, helped win their case. The U.N.'s decision was not, and has never been, accepted by the Palestinians, who were never consulted on the partitioning. At the time of partitioning, Palestinians formed 70% of the population and owned 92% of the land. After the division they were left with less than half of their former country, giving the Zionist minority geographical superiority. In May 1948, the Zionists announced the state of Israel, and as a response to this threat, the PLO was formed. Over

the next twenty years, Palestine shrank in size as more and more territory was lost to the Zionist war machine. Eventually, no trace of the former country remained and hundreds of thousands of Palestinians were without a homeland. Many of these sought refuge in neighbouring Arab countries, a safe haven from Israeli aggression, that is until March 1978. It was at this time that the Israeli government began a renewed attack on the Palestinian people, with the elimination of the PLO as its stated objective. Israel invaded Lebanon and the result was 1000 dead and 200,000 left as refugees. In 1982, Israel again invaded Lebanon, under the same pretext, this time the result was the deaths of over 3000 Palestinians in the camp massacres of Sabra and Shatila. In December 1987, the massive peoples uprising, which is called the Intifada, began. The Palestinian people finally having had enough of Israel's policy of repression, arbitrary arrests, torture and confiscation of farming ground, took to the streets. The resistance took the form of mass demonstrations, strikes, smashing of bank windows, and the like. The Israelis responded in typical fashion, killing 27 Palestinians in two weeks time, wounding hundreds and arresting thousands. The Israeli Minister of Domestic Affairs, Rabin, instituted the bone-breaking policy whereby it was permitted, indeed encouraged, to break Palestinians bones, preferably the right arm to prevent them from throwing stones. Since the uprising began, the Israeli government has become increasingly brutal and oppressive. Thousands of Palestinians are allowed to work day jobs in Israel but must return to the occupied territories at night. They are paid meager wages and receive the worst jobs. Palestinians must carry I.D. badges at all times and are subject to arrest, detention and imprisonment without charges being laid. If this sounds like South Africa, it should, though I am sure the Palestinians wish they had it as good as their South African counterparts. A quick comparison to illustrate my point: In South Africa, 87% of the land is reserved for whites only; in Israel, 92% of the land is reserved for Jews only. In South Africa, the African National Congress has been legalized, peaceful demonstrations are allowed and rallies can be held by the opposition. In Israel, there are no negotiations with the PLO and human rights atrocities continue. In South Africa detention without trial is limited to six months; in Israel detention without trial has been increased *from* six to twelve months. So while South Africa has clearly embarked on a course of change which must end in the dismantlement of apartheid, Israel is just as determined to maintain their own form of apartheid. Considering the evidence above, it must surely be asked whether comparisons between Israel and South Africa are fair to South Africa. (3)

Ontario Science Centre

It is with this in mind, then, that we must consider the recent hoopla surrounding the Science Centre and its



boycott of Israeli goods contract with Oman. The controversy, which broke in mid-November, involved a Science Centre contract to design exhibits for a children's museum in the Mideast country of Oman. The original agreement included a guarantee from the centre that none of the equipment would be made in Israel, purchased from an Israeli company, or shipped by an Israeli firm.

"The real scandal," says Canadian Arab Federation (CAF) president James Kafieh, "is that the provincial and federal governments were not actively cooperating in developing their own sanctions against Israel for its human rights violations. Sanctions are a perfectly acceptable tool to bring countries into compliance with international law. Canada played a leading role in getting sanctions against South Africa and an active role in helping to enforce sanctions against Iraq because Iraq is not complying with the principles of international law. We would want the same thing in the case of Israel." (4)

Bob Rae, who sacked the director of the Ontario Science Centre for his involvement in the boycott, stated that, "For any agency of this province to participate in a boycott directed against any country, directed against Israel, is completely contrary to the policies of this government." George Cohon, president of McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Ltd., and chairperson of the Science Centre's board, remarked that "never in my wildest dreams did I ever think I'd be involved in anything against Israel. I wish it was anything else, I wish it was South Africa..."

But certainly there is as good a reason to boycott goods from Israel as those from South Africa. Kafieh, noting Israel's violations of international law - the occupation of Jerusalem, the Jewish settlement of the occupied territories, the detention of Palestinians - wonders why the government would want to stonewall a legitimate weapon of the human rights struggle. "Why would the province of Ontario feel the need to put a special law in place to protect Israel from peaceful, non-violent pressure designed to bring it into

compliance with international law?" he asks (5). The law, Ontario's Discriminatory Businesses Practices Act, was passed in 1978 by the then Tory government at the urging of Zionist groups. The act's stated purpose is to prevent discrimination in business on the basis of race, nationality, ancestry or sex, but has been used for little else than keeping the Arab boycott of Israel at bay. The hypocrisy is that while Canada endorses sanctions against South Africa and passes legislation to protect sanctions from being applied against Israel, the alliance between Israel and South Africa remains strong. From Israel, South Africa receives advanced engineering, including military technology unobtainable anywhere else due to sanctions and embargos; from South Africa, Israel receives strategic raw materials and capital for a variety of purposes. This situation has enabled the U.S. and Canada to pay lip service to an embargo of strategic goods to South Africa, while in fact sending it the goods via Israel.

There can be little doubt as to the government's allegiance. After the killing of Palestinian worshippers at the Temple Mount, harem es sharif - the CAF asked External Affairs for United Nations observer troops to protect residents of the territories. The federation called for sanctions against Israel if it would not cooperate. While Canada voted for such troops at the U.N., sanctions against Israel are not part of the governments Mideast strategy. Said Rodney Moore of External Affairs, "There are Palestinian rights we are interested in, but we are devoted to the security and peace of Israel." The unfortunate flaw in this way of thinking is that as long as Israel feels secure, Palestinian rights are going to be grievously violated.

The Zionist Solution

The Zionist solution to the Palestinian problem has been stated, outlined and reiterated even before the partitioning. Joseph Weitz, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Jewish National Fund (JNF) from 1951 to 1973, proposed a 'Solution to the Refugee Problem.' Writing in his diary in 1940 he concluded, "Among ourselves it must be clear that there is no place in the country [Palestine] for both peoples together... With the Arabs we shall not achieve our aim of being independent people in this country. The only solution is Eretz Israel, at least the west part of Eretz Israel, without Arabs... and there is no other way but to transfer the Arabs from here to the neighbouring countries, transfer all of them, not one village or tribe should remain..." (6). It should be noted that this was written before the partitioning, before Israel even existed as a separate country. It should also be noted that his prophecy that - "not one village or tribe should remain" - began to be horribly fulfilled within a decade of its writing.

The massacre in the Palestinian Arab village of Deir Yasin in 1948, put into practice what Zionists such as Weitz had been calling 'the only solution' to the

Palestinian problem. Prior to its destruction, Deir Yasin had a population of some 400 people. On 9 April 1948, the Revisionist Zionist National Military Organization, led by future Prime Minister Menachem Begin, with the Fighters for the Freedom of Israel, led by Begins successor and current P.M. Yitzhak Shamir, attacked the village and murdered approximately 250 men, women and children (7).

The Zionist plan for the removal of Palestinians from Israel's borders obviously means removal by any means necessary, including genocide. The massacre at Deir Yasin was only one of many to follow: The decimation of Al-Duwayma, the slaughter at Sabra and Shatila, the recent murders at harem el sharif - these massacres are unquestionable proof that the Zionist goal of an all-Jewish state will be facilitated through the extermination of the Palestinian people. The latest action designed to rid Israel of Arab presence, is not a military operation (though military violence continues). Possibly the greatest threat to Palestinian existence in the occupied territories is coming via a campaign called Operation Exodus.

Operation Exodus

Unfortunately, by the time you read this, Operation Exodus - the fundraising campaign for the forced relocation of Soviet Jewish emigres into the occupied territories - will have been a huge success. For those of you who were unaware of this operation and what its repercussions will be; read on. Over the past six months, 35,000 Torontonians alone donated tens of thousands of dollars to pay for the flight from the Soviet Union and resettlement in Israel of an estimated 1000 Jews a day. This resettlement will have a disastrous effect on the Palestinians living in the West Bank. Joe Flexer of Jews For A Just Peace, outlines the plan: "Soviet Jews are being settled in East Jerusalem and are displacing other Israeli citizens...then the government gives previous citizens housing on the West Bank. It fits into the whole objective of annexation and expulsion of the Palestinians. This can especially be seen since there is now a move to replace the 100,000 to 150,000 Palestinians from the occupied territories who work in Israel, with the labour of Soviet Jews." (8).

Twelve thousand Soviet Jews have already arrived in Israel and another 1.4 million have applied for visas. Francis Boyle, a professor of international relations at the University of Illinois, agrees that the Soviet Jews have no right to settle in the occupied territories. He states that the influx of Soviet Jews is a direct violation of the fourth Geneva convention, which does not permit Israel to transfer its own population into the occupied territories. Noting that Israel is obligated, under a UN general assembly resolution, to accept the return of Palestinian refugees, Boyle asks, "How can the Israeli government take in 2-3 million Jews from the Soviet Union who have never lived there and never had any attachment to this land, at the same time

refusing to countenance the return of the 3-4 million Palestinian refugees who had always lived there?" (9).

How indeed! But the reality is that Israel is planning to spend almost 6.5 billion dollars U.S. on Soviet immigrants this year. That would mean that the military budget would be exceeded for the first time. It is quite obvious that this maneuver is to accomplish what years of brutal military oppression have not been able to; that is, to rid Israel of any trace of Arab peoples.

Not surprisingly, the United States is eager to aid their Zionist ally in their dream for an all-Jewish state. In addition to the \$25 million already allocated last year by Congress, the U.S. is being asked to bankroll Israel with \$400 million in new loan guarantees for the housing of Soviet immigrants. The fact is that most Soviet Jews who want to leave the Soviet Union, hope to resettle in the U.S. or in other Western European countries. A radical change in U.S. immigration policy coupled with pressure from Israel, has given the immigrants little choice in the matter. The United

States, which has long pressed the Soviet Union to relax its emigration policy, has suddenly declared that Soviet Jews no longer meet the U.S. definition of refugees. For the time being, only 50,000 Soviet citizens will be allowed to emigrate to the United States each year. This is surely designed to accommodate the Israeli goal of encouraging massive immigration to Israel and in reversing the trend of the last few years in which more Jews have left Israel than have exercised their so-called right of return. A quote from PLO Foreign Minister Farouk Qadoumi summarizes the effect that this coercion will have on the prospect for peace in the region. "An influx of Jewish immigration from the Soviet Union will pose one of the biggest obstacles in the peace process. It is an obstacle to peace because the Israeli government intends to accommodate in the West Bank and Gaza the Jewish immigration which is planned. If the number of Jewish settlers there increases, it will be difficult to have peace, and this will support [Prime Minister] Shamir's plan to annex the West Bank and Gaza." (10).



Arab students at Jerusalem's Hebrew University expressed support for the independent Palestinian state declared by the P.L.O. and protested the demolition of

15 Arab houses built without a permit. The protesters carried signs in Hebrew, one which read 'I also want a home'.



Israel as a Zionist Racist Fascist State

There are no nation states that can claim immunity from developments leading to fascism. States are more or less vulnerable to embracing fascist ideology and apartheid systems as solutions to internal (or external) strife. The only question is one as to degree. In the case of the Zionist racist state of Israel, fascist practise and apartheid legislation have been central to mainstream Zionist ideology. Political Zionism has the objective of establishing radical apartheid in Palestine. Thus far, Zionism has been successful in uniting all Zionist parties around this objective, the end result being an exclusively Jewish society organized within the framework of a sovereign Jewish state. And these objectives are far more radical than the form of apartheid instituted in South Africa. While, in the latter, the native society is incorporated into the system in terms of clearly stated economic exploitation and segregation, in the case of Israel, the Zionist goal has always been the expulsion of the Palestinians from their homeland.

Is it any wonder then, that the most prominent and popular figures to rise in Israel's power structure have been assassins and butchers. Manachem Begin, who was Israel's first Revisionist Zionist Prime Minister, was also commander of the National Military Organization - the group behind the Deir Yasin Massacre in 1948. Ariel Sharon began his prominent military career as the commander of the Israeli army assassination squad, Unit 101. And Yitzhak Shamir, current Prime Minister of Israel, began his career as

commander of the Freedom Fighters for Israel Organization, responsible for the deaths of countless numbers of Palestinians and directly responsible for the assassination of the U.N. mediator Count Folke Bernadotte in 1949 (11).

So what's my solution? As I see it, there will not be peace in the Middle East except through the destruction of the Zionist state as it exists in its present form. So long as Israel maintains their racist, expansionist and oppressive practises, armed struggle is the only sure way to achieve liberation. The P.L.O. have continually offered to negotiate a peaceful resolution to the conflict, but to no avail. No other organization can secure the liberation of Palestine from Zionist colonization and Israeli occupation. Three basic, internationally recognized rights of the Palestinian people must be achieved if there is to be peace. They are the right of return, self determination, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on Palestinian national soil.

In closing I've selected a quote by Said Hammami, P.L.O. Representative to the United Kingdom.

.....We hope that it will be possible before long to work out a form of co-existence which will enable the two peoples to live together within a reunited Palestine...Not in our lifetime? Perhaps - though once the process of change begins within Israel it may proceed faster than anyone thinks. But in any case we Palestinians can afford to wait. We have learned to be patient through many painful years. Time, as well as justice, is on our side. And perhaps power also, in the fullness of time. One day men will be reading in their history books about the episode of Zionist Israel and looking back on it, will see that it was, after all, only a passing aberration in the course of history in the Middle East." (12).

Revolution 'til Victory

ENDNOTES:

1. Israel : An Apartheid State, Uri Davis, 1987, p.3.
2. Ibid, p.3.
3. Palestine Focus, p.2.
4. Now, Nov. 29 - Dec. 5.
5. Ibid.
6. Israel: An Apartheid State, p. 6.
7. Ibid, p. 6.
8. Now, Nov 8 - 14, p. 15.
9. Ibid, p. 15.
10. Palestine Focus, p. 4.
11. Israel: An Apartheid State, p. 83.
12. Ibid, p.110.



Oi Polloi are a band from Scotland whose line up has changed over the years, though their message and integrity has remained well intact. The nineties are in desperate need of some thinkers who aren't afraid to act. Oi Polloi are of such a breed. They toured North America this summer and Omar Sheriff managed to get an interview with them up at the CHRY studios. The following conversation was the outcome of August 12 th, 1990.

When did Oi Polloi start and why...

Deek: We started in 1981. That was when we were still at school and the main reason for that really was to liven up a particularly boring local scene. We use to have concerts at our school and each time it was the same old people who seemed to play everytime. There was a quite a lot of punks there and we wanted to hear some decent music. No one else was doing it so we figured that we'd have to do it ourselves. I think that's one of the main things of the philosophy. If you want something to happen, usually no one else is doing it so you have to do it yourself.

I understand there is only one original member, that being you Deek. Who is the current line up and how did you get hooked up together.....

Deek: There is Chris the guitarist. I knew Chris because he use to play in a band called **State of Decay**, this

awesome 'Icons of Filth' type band, and he had helped us out once or twice in the past. So when our last guitarist departed Chris stepped in. And Dan is....

Dan: ...a nobody.

Deek: Dan use to be in a band called **Destroy**

Dan: (Ed note: laughter) Many moons ago.

Deek: Yes but Dan is someone we knew from Edinburgh. And Morague use to play in a band from Aberdeen called **Grunge**, so impressed by her awesome bass playing talents we asked her to join. So now we have the perfect combination.

Is this the same line-up that has recorded the most recent lp.....

Deek: No. Me, Chris, and Dan did it, but we had a different bassist. He has since left to join a new band called **Academy 23** with folk from **The Apostles** from London. So he's moved on to pastures green, but essentially it's the same people.

We're still playing the same songs.

Explain your name. Why did you choose the name Oi Polloi.....

Deek: Do you want to go for this one Dan?

Dan: Well I wasn't in the band when they chose it so you'll have to ask Deeker why, but it comes from the Greek term "Hoi Polloi", which basically means the common people or something like that.

Deek: Yeah. It's a phrase that the upper middle classes will use in Britain to talk about the....what they say is the 'rabble'; the sort of vulgar common people. For instance, it might be used..."Oh, we don't want the Hoi Polloi coming around here", you know if they're talking about the exclusive neighbourhood which they happened to live in. Something like that. We kind of knocked the 'H' off of the beginning because at the time we were quite happy to be identified with the Oi movement.

Why are your lyrics so different from typical Oi lyrics and do you consider yourself an oi band.....

Deek: No. When we started oi didn't have any of the sort of dodgy associations it has these days with the far right wing and so on, it was just a kind of musical style which was basically good solid medium paced punk with crowd choruses. That was what attracted us to it. Since then we've been influenced by bands like Discharge.....

Chris:Anti Sect, Black Sabbath...

Deek: Yeah heavier kind of stuff like that and also lyrically we're not influenced by any of the oi bands because basically most of them, even in the beginning, sang about rather moronic things like going down to the pub and drinking. Well we're not averse to a bit of drinking, I don't really see the point in singing about it.

You do a song called "Fuck the Poll Tax". For the benefit of the people over here who might not be familiar with it do you think you could explain what the Poll Tax is and is the opposition to it very strong. On the tv, we see a lot of rioting and stuff like that, but in actual concrete terms is much being done by people not paying the tax or is it all just words.....

Chris: In Glasgow just now, there are a lot of local groups who are organizing to combat it because the people who will refuse to pay will get fined and after they get fined, they are going to have warrant sales, where the sheriff's officers come around to their house and take their possessions to sell on the street. People are going to stop this by organizing local groups, which will go around to people's houses who are having warrant sales and demonstrate outside and physically stop them if they have to.

Deek: I think there have been a few cases in Scotland already where the sheriff's officers, who are the officials who try and get money off of people, have on numerous

NAZI SCUM

STANDING OUTSIDE THE PRIMARY SCHOOL GATES/WITH THEIR LEAFLETS STIRRING UP RACE
HATE/CREeping ROUND IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT/SETTING INNOCENT PEOPLE'S HOUSES
ALIGHT/THEY STAB AND KILL IN RACIAL ATTACKS/JUST HOW MUCH MORE BEFORE YOU
FIGHT BACK?/FIND THEM - GRIND THEM - GRIND THEM!!

NAZI SCUM - YOUR TIME WILL COME

occassions.....they've actually been beaten up, had their vehicles smashed up, this kind of thing. Debt collection companies who have been used in attempts to collect the Poll Tax just before we left, some of them had been firebombed. There is a lot of resistance going on. There is over a million people in Scotland, out of a population of five million, not all of whom are suppose to pay the tax, but over a million people haven't paid it. So there is a wide grassroots campaign against it. We didn't actually explain what it was?

Chris: The Poll Tax is like...instead of the old rate system where you would pay rates on how much you would earn, you pay on what area you live in. So you get poor areas that are next to rich areas and the people both have to pay the same amount so the rich people are paying less than what they used to and the poor people are having to pay more. That's basically it. The rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer.

When you've been playing live here I've noticed that you've expressed the view that nazis and like minded people should be physically confronted. I'd just like to know why do you take this kind of view? What is it about your past experiences or whatever that you feel....you have this point of view.....

Dan: I think a lot of people agree that you've got to stop the nazis. You've got to stop them from spreading their influence. You've got to stop them from what they're doing, which is beating people up for being different from them basically. Persecuting people for having a different skin colour, which obviously a lot of people disagree with. What it comes down to is how different people want to stop them. Personally, I think we're all agreed, that by any means

necessary is what it takes. Any form of resistance to them should be encouraged and if violence is the answer then it should be. We think that you're not going to stop nazis just by talking to them and telling them they're wrong because once they've got a sort of hardcore frame of mind, when you're sort of set on being a nazi for the rest of your life, then just talking to them isn't going to do much good.

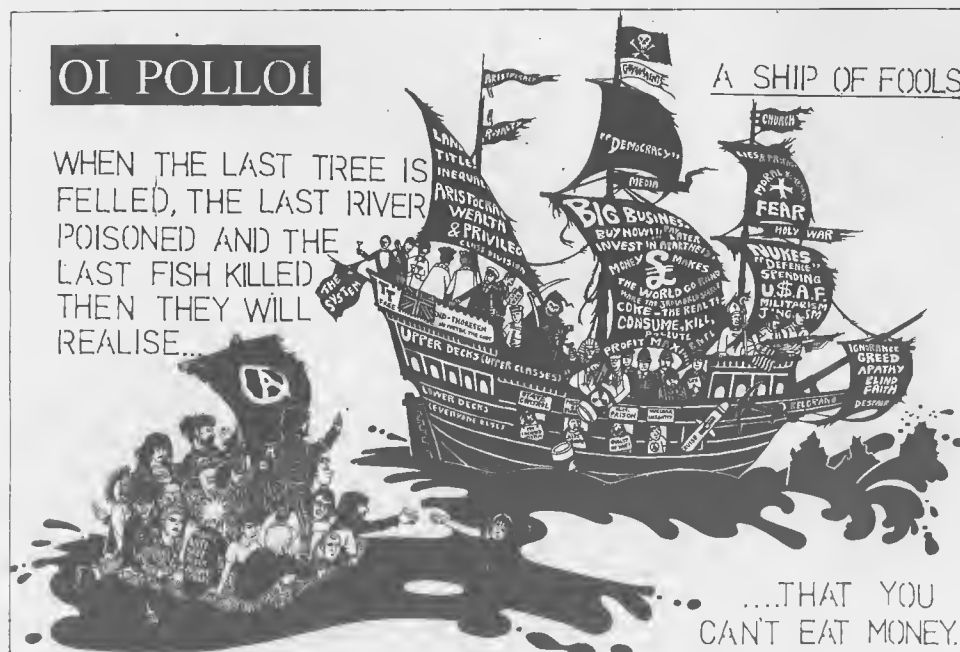
Deek: I think that it is very important to stop them from recruiting because once they get a foothold on the streets or wherever they do their recruitment they get more and more people and they're more and more difficult to stop. It's like a lot of things. Problems are far easier solved if you can get them right in the beginning rather than letting them get out of hand. So for this reason we think that it's really important that if they attempt to demonstrate on the street to create a kind of street presence that must be stopped, if they try and sell newspapers on the street they should be stopped again. Gigs. If they have gigs their gigs should be smashed up this kind of thing. Record shops that sell their stuff should be picketed. Other kind(s) of direct action should be taken. This sort of poison has got to be stopped because the consequences are people getting killed. You look in the papers and all the time you're seeing stuff about nazi skinheads attacking people, burning out people's homes, this kind of stuff and it's a matter of life or death in the end. A lot of people, the nazi skins who do this kind of stuff, the way they get into it is by listening to Skrewdriver records.

So how do you feel about people who say that you're interfering by taking that physical approach. They say that a) you're either interfering with the free flow

Yeah well in the past we have had Skewdriver records and we've complained about them

Deek: Yeah I mean I think we've all got our own ideas. We've probably not got exactly the same philosophy on this. I mean personally I would say that a lot of these things are obsolete, basically. They've got too much in common with each other. Personally what I'm in favour of is a much more of what some people would call a 'green anarchist'. You know more towards complete decentralization of power, self sufficiency, low energy future, this kind of thing, but we could talk about this for hours and hours. I don't think people would tend to spend that much time kind of sitting around talking about our ideal blueprints of the future. There are a lot of problems that need to be done today and we would just like to get on and do them. But that's personally. I don't know.

Deek: An interesting point of view. I would say that I completely disagree with that. Just an illustration of how



people in a band don't necessarily have the same views.

Well lets hear it then.....

Deek: I think Scotland would be far better off being independent, just as the decentralization of power is always a step in the right direction. Obviously, our Scottish government is by no means an end in itself. For instance, there was oil discovered off of the coast of Scotland a few years ago now. This oil has been spent by our beloved Prime Minister Thatcher on numerous things like Trident missiles, a massive nuclear power program, this sort of stuff. If Scotland had been independent, then none of that nonsense would have started in the first place. Scotland has been by nature a very left winged country. We would be far better off on our own rather than being governed by people who live 400 hundred miles away. Many people have never been to Scotland in their lives and they use this country. They just take our oil, our forestry, our

natural resources and use us as a nuclear dump site for nuclear waste.

Is that nationalist seperatist mindset prevalent and does it relate much to the musical scene within Scotland or no.....

Dan: The punk musical scene or the musical scene in general.

I'd say the alteranative, the underground/ punk scene.....

Deek: No not really. There are a few bands who promote that kind of thing, but its not really seen as an issue by a lot of...I mean a lot of punks have this idea about nationality being all wrong and who needs borders, which I agree with, but not when it means one country's culture is being destroyed. I'd like to see no borders and all this kind of stuff, but that doesn't mean that I would like to see one massive world government, all governed from one central place. I don't think a lot of the people in the punk scene just don't think about it because they are busy thinking about other issues.

What are the groovy bands coming out of Scotland that you would recommend and that you could plug for people over here.....

Dan: SEDITION. They're quite groovy.

Chris: BIGGER THAN GOD from Edinburgh.

Deek: Morag, your tip for the top from Aberdeen.

Morag: HEADACHE.

Deek: You see we all come from different cities so.....Chris is from

Glasgow and SEDITION are good over there.

Chris: PSYCHO FLOWERS.

Deek: I would recommend for people to listen to A.O.A., if they ever get to hear any of their new stuff. They are from just outside of Edinburgh.

They are still around.....

Deek: They are still around and they have just recorded some excellent new stuff, which is really really good. A big improvement on their old stuff. But they don't really do very much at the moment. I think they need a friend to get them lots of gigs and things. A good kick up the bottom. I would also recommend that people listen to TOXIC AFFECTS from Aberdeen who should have an excellent new lp out any time now. Probably on their own label. I would imagine that it would have a bright green cover or something. They are excellent. Kind of tuneful punk. They are well worth listening out for.

How does the number 23 relate to the band.....

Dan: It doesn't.

Deek: This is a question for Chris. He's the mystical one in the band.

Chris: It is just something that we had heard about. The sort of stuff written by William Burroughs and stuff that PSYCHIC T.V. have been ranting about that this number 23 is a powerful black magic number....

(Ed note: broken in by laughter)

Deek: We should stress here that not everyone in the band is totally fascinated by this sort of stuff.

Chris: It pops up more than what you would expect. More than random.

Deek: For instance, Steve Perry's house is soon to be demolished to make way for a 23 story building.

Chris: And in Hurricane Diana, 23 people were killed. There are many other things.

Deek: Strangely enough, on the dial in the studio here it's almost coming up to 23 on this counter here.

The number of Steve Perry's house is double 23 of course. (Ed note: Stephe Perry use to live at 46 Elmwood) **What releases do you have available.....**

Deek: Available? Meaning that people have a reasonable chance of getting them? We've got an lp that



we recorded in January, that is the sort of current lp thing, called In Defense of our Earth on Words of Warning Records. You can get that in the Record Peddler, but I wouldn't advise you to because it is ludicrously overpriced. Hopefully you, Omar, will be getting some to sell at gigs. And I'm sure listeners could phone up Paul and he will tell them all or Steve even. There's that and also the same label, Words of Warning Records, which is not really a label it's just a friend of ours who does stuff. He's releasing an lp, which is away getting pressed at the moment, so it should be out by the end of September. Anyway, an lp of some of our old material that is no longer available. It will have all the tracks from the Resist the Atomic Menace ep, which is our first 7", all the tracks from our second 7" Outrage, plus some of the best tracks off split lps and compilations we've been on. That will be called Outraged by the Atomic Menace. That's on Word of Warning Records, as well.

Why have you appeared on so many split lps in the past....

Deek: Because it seemed a good idea at the time. The first one we did with A.O.A. That was really helpful for us because A.O.A. were known and we weren't and that got our name around. The one with TOXIC AFFECTS was done because we were both into each others bands and we were going to be touring together and stuff so we just thought we'd do a split lp, basically because TOXIC AFFECTS were an excellent band and they seemed to play in Aberdeen only, for about 7 years. They seemed to have played hardly anywhere a part from that and that was quite helpful for them to get heard all over the country. So I think that's helped them quite a bit. The other one was the with the BETRAYED on OI Records, which was just a series of split lps. And also I think that the amount of money that it costs to record an lp means that we never really had the money to record a full lp so the stuff that we could afford to record always seemed to last about 21 minutes or something or even 23 minutes, which



photo by Melanie Aguila

is about right for one side of a split lp. That just seems to be the way it's worked out.

So you've been here for about a week now and we're just sort of interested, granted that you've only seen a small part of it, but what are your impressions, so far, of North America.....

Morag: We've met some great people. It's really strange. The buildings and things are really different from what you'd find in Britain. There is lots of skyscrapers and things. You don't really get that at all around where I live.

Chris: Yeah it's pretty awesome.

Dan: It's just like the distances are unbelievable, when you look at a map and you look between Montreal and Ottawa and there is hardly anything in between that two hundred miles. In terms of scale, it is just sort of huge compared to Britain, where you could just sort of travel anywhere in a day. Like at the minute we're sort of nearer to Britain than we are to the other side of Canada. That's stupid. It's a stupid country.

Deek: I like the people. A lot of the people seem quite friendly, but it's far too hot and it's not what we're used to in bonny Scotland. I don't like the skyscrapers either. They make me feel like an ant.

I think that's what they are designed to do actually.....

Deek: Yes very probably.

Dan: There is a lack of old stuff that you get use to in Britain.

Chris: You need some good gothic architecture. Cathedrals and that sort.

Dan: In Scotland there are sort of castles all over the place and over here it's just all new stuff. That's odd.

Morag: And there's lots of squirrels and no Haggises running around.

Deek: Yeah, we're into your black squirrels. We don't have them across in Scotland. And grasshoppers are a lot bigger over here, as well. Ants are bigger. That's actually quite interesting.

Morag: That's quite nasty.

Chris: If they bite you. Strange insects have bitten my body and left me with sores.

Do you have any last comments.....

Chris: Don't eat yellow snow. It's where the huskies go.

Deek: I'd like to say and it sounds ridiculous, but if there is anyone reading who was at our Toronto gig, I'd like to say thanks because it was excellent. It was really good. I think it was the best one that we did. It was really good fun. Special thanks to

One Blood for all there awesome help. And get down to the Record Peddler and smash up those nazis records. What else is there too say. ●

MACCHETTI
with
Bull

When the calves reach six months of age they are moved from pasture land and confined in either indoor or more often, outdoor feedlots. They are quickly brought to market weight through overeating. They consume large quantities of legumes, protein supplements, corn and cereal, their movements are restricted to best utilize food for weight gain. The unnatural diet of great quantities of grain causes stomach disorders and frustrates the animals' urge to ruminate to the point that the cattle will constantly lick their own and other animals' coats to obtain roughage. Later, the fur collected in their digestive systems causes abscesses.



The steer's two rear legs are brought together and fastened to a chain hoist. This is done with considerable difficulty, for the steer, though silent and glassy-eyed, is kicking and thrashing. Once the chain is attached the animal is hauled into the slaughterhouse and upward so that it is hanging head first over a six-foot-square concrete pit. The steer vomits into the pit. The slaughterer sharpens a long knife and then, in one quick pull, slits the animal's throat. Blood pours into the pit as water from a huge bag. The steer does not react, save for a few spasmodic twitches of its head.

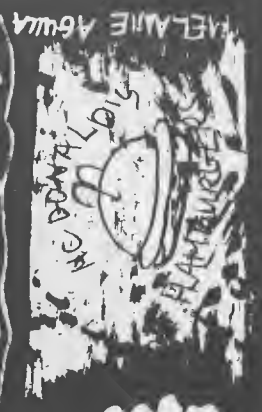


The slaughterer places a round stun gun at a point between and three inches above the steer's blinking eyes and fires a black cartridge. Bullets are not used because the steer's brain will be sold for consumption. The steer drops immediately and soundlessly to the floor. The metamorphosis of living animal to cellophaned meat has begun.



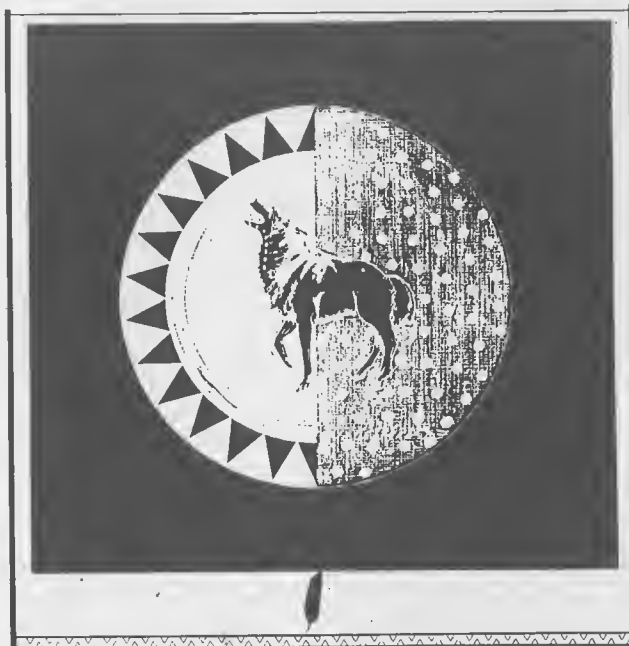
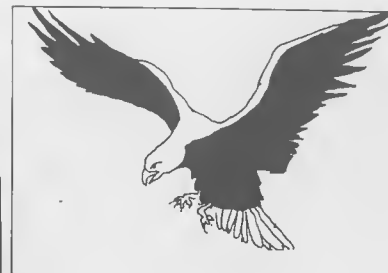
Cattle will usually be de-horned, castrated, branded and their ears will be cut. The purpose of de-horning is to enable the producers to crowd more animals into the pens and reduce injuries. The horns are not insensitive members, and excessive bleeding can result from severed arteries. All these mutilations are accomplished without anesthetic.

Meat producers are responsible for more of the nation's water pollution than industry and households. The beef producers business is destroying vast quantities of grasslands through overgrazing.





By Mary Jankulak



The Oka Crisis: Is it over or just beginning

There were four of us in the car driving into Kahnawake reserve, and even though we knew there would be soldiers, none of us were prepared for the psychological intimidation we experienced when they stopped our car and questioned our driver. One passenger, a native child, said afterward that she felt like throwing up. And this was AFTER the so called "surrender" of the warriors on September 27. What were the armed forces doing there?

The army's presence at Oka has been largely unquestioned by the Canadian population. In fact, according to Major Daniel Tremblay, head of advertising for recruiting, Oka actually HELPED enlistment for a short time. "Enlistment has increased in infantry and artillery and a few other areas after Oka," he told NOW magazine in Dec. 1990. The driver of our car that Saturday afternoon, when we were stopped twice by the army at their barricades, is a political refugee from El Salvador. He said, "You Canadians have an image of the police and army, that you would be happy to see them in a crisis, that they would help you." Having escaped the army in his own country, he believes, "it is dangerous to accept, without question, the presence of the army in your own country, against your own people. If you accept this,

the next move against your freedom will happen, and you can say nothing, because you did not protest this."

All the mainstream media refer to the "Oka Crisis", as though there was a single incident that began July 11, 1990, with the Surete du Quebec storming a small Mohawk barricade in Kanesatake, and ended September 27, 1990 when the Mohawks behind the wire "surrendered". The mainstream media have, for the most part, failed to provide any context of a historical struggle of ALL NATIVE PEOPLES OF THE AMERICAS for land rights and sovereignty. Rather, this media have focused almost exclusively on a small para-military force, known as the Warrior Society, that are neither sanctioned or approved by any Iroquois National Government, who have occupied a small geographical location over a period of a few months. The "new-improved" image of a native is now a masked man dressed in fatigues, posing triumphantly on an overturned police car, brandishing a gun in the air.

The mainstream media's insistence in focusing on the violent aspect of the struggle at the expense of long, painful, PEACEFUL negotiations is misleading the public, and dangerous to those involved in negotiation processes. If the mainstream media require a show of

THE
PASSION OF
BETHUNE

Maclean's

THE FURY OF OKA

AFTER THE
SHOWDOWN,
INDIAN LEADERS
PROMISE A
VIOLENT AUTUMNA Soldier And Mohawk Warrior
During The Tense Weekend Confrontation

An example of the media dehumanizing
campaign directed against Native peoples
during the Oka Crisis....

arms as criteria for covering an event, and if the mainstream media are dictating terms on which coverage will be forthcoming, they are thus helping to ensure that guns be a necessary part of the publicity package of Indian grievances.

Let's examine a leading Canadian national weekly periodical as an example of mainstream media coverage of Oka. The cover of the September 10, 1990 issue of Maclean's magazine shows a photo of the now-famous confrontation between the young fresh-faced soldier and the older, world-weary masked warrior. Only in this particular angle, we see only the face of the soldier, the warrior's back is to us. The soldier is given a face, a personality, and the Indian is a menacing, blurry threat. The caption on the cover reads: "After the showdown, Indian leaders promise a violent autumn."

The REAL issue of violence - the army's invasion of the Kahnawake reserve on the labour day weekend - was stated but not questioned. The army had been moving troops and equipment into the area for 10 days before the Sept. 1 advance, which consisted of 3,033 troops, 2,500 of them combat soldiers. The 3rd battalion of the Royal 22nd encircled Kahnawake. The 2nd battalion of the Royal 22nd did the same at Kanesatake. The Royal Canadian Regiment's 2nd battalion supported the Van Doos at Kahnawake. The 5th Artillery Regiment did the same at Kanesatake. Also on hand were twin huey helicopters, CF-5 reconnaissance jets and the naval training ship HMCS Acadian patrolling the St. Lawrence. Euphemistically, Lt. Gen Kent Foster, the officer in charge of overall command, called the attack a "military operation". The Canadian Forces chief of staff Gen. John de Chastelain, appeared on national television to declare military action as "the last resort of Canadian law and order," thereby calling up visions of beavers, maple leaves, and Anne Murray singing "Oh Canada".

Canadian Law and Order. And so the INDIAN LEADERS are the threat in this scenario, according to the cover caption. Go figure.

Inside the same issue we find a special feature on John de Chastelain. As Canada's chief of defense staff, he commands an 87,000 member active force on land, air, and sea. The headline of this feature reads: "Cool and collected : A patient general takes charge at Oka." The article itself is a portrait of a man who is being unreasonably provoked. An admiring tone permeates the entire piece, which ends with a quote by a fellow officer, about the esteemed general: "This fellow is as bright as they come." Maclean's singles out individual army personnel, giving them faces, histories, hobbies, so we, in spite of ourselves, start to see this man as a Human Being. And he is repelling a faceless, depersonalized band of army thugs, who now conveniently represent ALL natives.

The Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs at Akwesasne, where the fire for the Mohawk Nation burns, released a statement July 25, 1990, calling upon the governments of Canada and Quebec to initiate and work towards a



settlement at Oka. Their statement also placed the situation in a broader context:

The Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs recognizes the importance of a peaceful resolution to the Oka land dispute but cautions the native peoples of Canada to understand there are broader Mohawk issues presented by the "Warrior Society" which cloud the land dispute at Oka. We also want you to be aware that when statements and press releases come from the Mohawk nation office in Kahnawake on Haudenosaunee letterhead that there has been absolutely no approval to use this letterhead. They have been warned and cautioned that the use of this letterhead is totally misleading and misrepresenting the Iroquois Confederacy.

Throughout the whole intense media spotlight this summer on Oka, various Indian representatives tried their damndest, without much success, to draw attention to the ISSUES that led to an armed standoff in the first place -- land rights and sovereignty for native peoples. And in this area, a small group of armed men do not represent all native people. The very thought is an insult, to say that one group could speak for so

many. The July 25 release by the Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs stresses this important point --the importance of resolving the land claims. They explain the "Warrior Society"¹ and stress that this group speaks only for itself, NOT the Mohawk Nation, as it has claimed.

Jay Mason, president of the Canadian Alliance in Solidarity With Native Peoples, addressed the American Indian Conference in May 1989. He began by stating that Native and Non-Native people must start understanding each other.

We are involved in a land rights struggle. This is a land based struggle. It's not a peace issue. It's not an environmental issue. It's a land rights issue - a land based struggle because this is where our ties are and this is where our roots are and there is a continuity of land struggle throughout the Turtle Islands.

The intricacies and the importance of land claims struggles is a fundamental reality of the Native peoples in all of the Americas. Without understanding that all things begin here, there can be no understanding of native struggles in any area of the world. Yet the mainstream media in Canada has failed to clearly articulate the importance of the land itself in their coverage of Oka. The Toronto Star/ CTV November 1990 poll stated that Oka cost natives Canada's sympathy. Oka becomes a catchword. To the question: "As a result of the blockades at Oka and elsewhere in Canada, are you more or less sympathetic to the natives' point of view?" (The "elsewhere" part of the question is a joke, since blockades outside of Oka were, and continue to be, ignored). The results were:

More	Less	No Change	Don't Know
23%	31%	44%	2%

To the question, "Have Canada's Native peoples largely caused their own problems or have problems been caused primarily by the attitudes of other Canadians and policies of governments?", the results were:

Caused by attitudes/ policies	Natives Caused Problems	Neither	Don't know
56%	27%	12%	6%

Maybe, just maybe, that 56% offers some hope for the future. ●

¹ The issue of the Warrior Society is too complex to explore here. For further information, contact Barbara Barnes, Secretary to the Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs, (613) 932-9452.

In future issues I will look at land rights struggles in different parts of the world, the origins of the Warrior Society, the Great Law of Peace, and other issues.

As this issue goes to press, tensions are escalating in Kahnawake, with RCMP and SQ officers entering the reserve and charging Mohawks for minor traffic violations. Also, Mohawk spokespersons are saying the Canadian government did not buy the disputed land at Oka, as they claimed.



On temporary hiatus, this California foursome have been recognized for their ability to make music reminiscent of the Dischord community. This community has come to reach far beyond D.C.'s city limits. Fuel represent just one of a growing number of bands that are injecting hardcore with their stylized priority on ethics. The need to convey messages of meaning with emotion is what arose on September 6th, 1990. The following conversation took place outside of the Apocalypse Club midway through their summer tour.

F U

Introduce yourselves and us what you play.....

Aaron: Hi I'm Aaron and I bass.

Mike: Mike. Play Guitar.

Jim: Jim. Play guitar.

How did you guys all hook together as FUEL.....

Jim: Well Mike and I were involved at Gilman Street. I was there for phase 2 of Gilman Street guess.

Mike: Jim moved out there Toronto. He kept telling us how there were no musicians in Toronto. I moved out from Toronto and we both volunteering at Gilman Street project in Berkeley and we were the same type of music and stuff. started jamming and coming up with song ideas and stuff like that. we got Aaron and did the same too.

Aaron: Actually they saw ads scattered around San Francisco and they saw one of them and called me. Then we got together we played in the back of my house I told them that I knew a drummer we went over and played with and I guess the rest is history.

Where did you come up with the name Fuel and what does it mean...

Aaron: Mike came up with it.

Mike: We were just kind of throwing some various ideas around and we were just trying to come up with something that kind of... necessarily...It was a word that conveyed some sense of urgency and havoc. It was a vague enough word where you can have interpretations for all of us, but a word that just of itself will give a basic description of what the music meant to us and what this project meant to us. So, we have different interpretations of what Fuel means to us.

Do you want to go through them....

Aaron: I think it's a really good word because it has so many different possible meanings, so many

FUEL

different connotations. To me, I don't know it just kind of represents the music and us as the individuals. It could be endless things. It could be something combustible or it could be something like, kind of, feeding, like, fueling something to continue something on. There's so many different kinds of ideas that could be associated with it. It's a really good name. It's simple and it's easy to remember and it starts with 'FU'.

Mike: For me it's basically... with the whole trying to express ourself through music and all. It's more of an inspiration for me and an attempt to try and communicate with other people and that's just kinda like, to actually fuel other people hopefully, through something we offer in our music...

Like an inspiration.....

Mike: Yeah, the way to inspire someone in a certain way to take action in their life. Just as much as it inspires me just being able to express our concerns, communicate our ideas through music it's a pretty inspirational thing when it's accomplished.

Aaron: Hopefully, to bring people to

the point where they realize that they can do something, that they can affect some sort of change in their lives or however far they want to take it. Most people take it to the point where they do realize that they have the ability to do something.

How has the comparison to other bands affected you? Has it helped or hurt you....

Aaron: I don't really see it hurting us in any way as a band. I guess as far as helping us maybe, people that like the other kinds of music, the bands that we get compared to maybe they'll be more inclined to listen to what we have to say, listen to us or give us a chance...things like that. But, I don't really see it as helping us or hurting us that much. I just see it being what it is. I just like, it's just trying to make it easier for people to understand who we are by attaching these bands to us or something like that.

Mike: I think there are some obvious influences of bands that have influenced us. It's not something that we set out to do like we wanted to sound like this band. It's not intentional. Unfortunately, it's probably our failure as artists to be as original or as individual sounding as we like. But, as the band

progresses, hopefully those influences will fall backwards. And what we're all about will come out.

Aaron: It's hard to be into a music that's really distinctive and really powerful and really be into that kind of music and not be affected by it in some way and it's inevitable that it's gonna affect the way you play in some ways.

Who or what are your influences...

Aaron: There is a whole lot of new bands that are coming out. They are fresh bands. Those are the bands that are really inspiring me right now. It's not like I'm too attached to anything from the past. Bands like Phleg Camp are amazing.

Mike: There is a lot of bands. A lot of more heard of bands, like things going on in Washington, D.C. or that type of sound is an influence over us, but I think moreso, there are a lot of bands that are just coming from all around that have the same values and it's really cool to see that there is a lot of these bands that have this way of approaching music as expression. Like Phleg Camp from Toronto. There is other bands that we did little mini tours with. We've been doing these little mini tours with different bands while we were on tour, through different areas. Like we toured with a band, Angry Son from Oklahoma who were just totally incredible. Another band? Admiral from Pennsylvania. We met up with Jawbox. All these bands that are totally inspiring.

Aaron: That's what's most inspiring to me. At this point, it's the bands that we actually interact with. It's the bands that we get to see and hang out with.

Does that have anything to do with setting up the tour? Isn't that worked out partially ahead of time....

Mike: Yeah. Our tour has been helped out by the fact that we are in communication with these people all across the continent that have the same ideals for approaching the whole, you know 'How you book a tour thing?'. What kind of places you'd like to play? Who you'd want to support? What type of door prices? Whether it's an all ages type of thing?



photo by Paul Abrash

fuel. robzine.



And so it's really cool for us. It's also been totally helpful. I've been in other bands that toured and we tried to book shows in areas that we were unfamiliar with by ourselves. That was pretty hard because you'd find yourself playing some really wierd places that you would not necessarily want to support or that would be the most constructive to support from a creative standpoint in helping a community. So it's really helpful to be in touch with all these people.

Lyricaly, what do you sing about? Is there a common theme.....

Aaron: I don't write the lyrics, but I definitely see a common string running through what they write. I think it's realizing that you can change things by taking them into your own hands. Realizing that you can become active in things and that that's your purpose for being here in a lot of ways.

Mike: And that there are a lot of people who it's hard for them due to economic situation. It's harder. Not everyone can have this kind of perspective, but if you do have it and you're not totally struggling to put

food on the table. It's this whole thing of realizing that you are more fortunate than others and you should try and function for your sake and for the sake of others.

Jim: Some songs may be the result of an incident or a person, but it always has that theme. We are not personally that well versed in political agendas or specific topics, but it's more like trying to develop our own consciousness and awareness and to take people from an initial stage and help them effect their awareness about how their actions can effect other people and can effect change. Usually it's events or things relating to that.

Mike: We don't necessarily have any political ideologies set out in the music. It is more like approaching it from an initial point and saying before you people can have these ideologies you have to get yourself straight up here and you have to prepare yourself to, not to sound corny, but to attack the system from an uncompromising way.

Jim: Songs about communication in the scene, relating to other people in a more direct way.

There are some things that are topical as of recent. Things like the environment. Do you have any opinions on the environment.....

Mike: Well just coming into Canada, I was already aware of the whole acid rain situation, but it makes it more apparant driving through parts of Quebec and seeing forests that were destroyed by acid rain. It made it hit a little closer to home, made it more real. It's another example of how the United States doesn't cater to thinking habits and is only concerned with personal business interests.

Aaron: It just seems that the majority of the people in the United States are basically desensitized to the effects of what is actually happening and what they are directly and indirectly supporting. It's really frightening because when you do tell them about it they start to understand, but it doesn't seem like they really care.

Jim: It's not on the top of their list of problems to clear up. Something going on relating to this is....I don't know if you've heard of the Earth First people. The Redwood summer? That's in our home town.

You mean the whole car bombing thing.....

Jim: I mean first is the fact that it was obvious that it was some... I mean these were political activists who were trying to be assassinated in the 1990's. And the police actions were immediate....They were on their death beds practically and they were being arrested for carrying explosives. They were being charged saying that they were terrorists.

Mike: The media too has totally played off this fear that the public has of these activists, who are a fringe organization, labelling them bomb throwing anarchists or whatever. The media totally played off of this image that I think a lot of the public in the United States has. They made them look guilty from day one and then when the charges finally were dropped the articles were in the back of the paper, very small, maybe a two paragraph thing that still made it apparent that the police still had suspicions even though the charges

had been dropped. It's an example of how there are some forces in control of a lot of these institutions. Forces that are a lot more insidious and a lot larger than...

Jim: I mean we joke about the 50's and McCarthyism and how we're beyond that with these progressive times, but it's there. The manipulation is so much more subtle that it's scarier now. That guy Daryl, he was a folk singer and he was on his way to a school for a show. I mean would Woodie Guthrie be alive in this day and age?

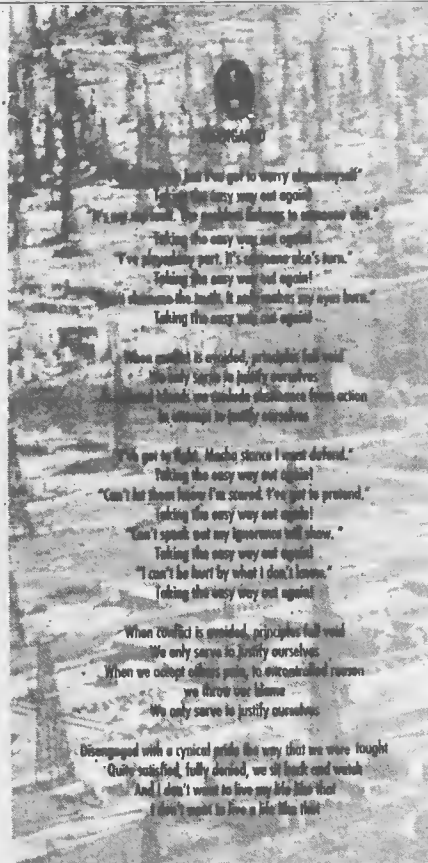
Mike: Another thing that's pretty scary is the whole Earth Day fiasco that went on. It's pretty terrifying to see all these corporations declaring themselves green companies. It was sponsored by Coors and McDonalds. In Golden Gate fields they had this open rock concert where 500,000 people showed up, but all the people there....It was total drunk fest where people were just throwing plastic cups everywhere. The place was littered with plastic cups and styrofoam containers. It was pretty strange. It's dangerous because people feel that they have addressed the issue by going to this event. They hung out at this concert and they feel they have done their part. "I don't need to think about it anymore". That's what scares me.

Jim: In a way it's cool to see that some companies are forced to address the issues, but as long as we don't believe that that's the solution or something ridiculous like that. It makes people feel optimistic.

How do you feel about the recent U.S. mobilization in the Middle East....

Mike: That totally hit home for us because that all occurred just after we went on tour so that isolates you from what goes on. I guess except for gas prices.

Jim: As we were touring, on the first part of our tour, this band Angry Son were constantly calling home. All the troops from Oklahoma were over there. First off, people they went to high school with were already over there in Saudi Arabia. And then the singer for Angry Sons was in the reserves. He has been a



medic in the reserves for some time and he had never been officially discharged and so he wasn't certain of his status even though he hadn't been going for a while. I'm not sure if he was in the National Guard or the reserves and apparently M.P.'s had come to his house because the reserves are being called up to replace jobs and some to go over I guess.

You hear a lot of comparisons to Vietnam and stuff like that....

Mike: It's totally just another example of how the United States is trying to push its influence to protect its business interests. It's ironic that the rationalization used on the public was that we have these oil interests and we have to protect them and this is such a vital source to us. Like it's a prime energy source. What is so ironic about this all is that if we are in that position it's obvious we were put there, by the Reagan-Bush administration. When the Reagan administration came into office they eliminated all tax incentives for people researching to find alternative energy programs. To protect oil companies they made us dependent on oil. Now we're in this situation where there is no research

for anything else alternative in energy sources.....It's terrifying. I know people who the draft has brought up these,.....well it's just terrifying to think we have to deal with all that.

Aaron: It's frightening because I can see it becoming the same thing that Vietnam was. This building and building. It's going to be so long and drawn out that people aren't going to be so effected by it.

Jim: With the whole bank situation going on back home with the S and L's. All these total scandals have been going on through the whole Contra-gate thing. One of the things that has been totally written out of the papers by these nothing events like protecting our oil interests. Meanwhile the whole state of the economy is in shambles.

Definitely there is some shit going on down there. There is a foreign policy that allows them to go in there. They are serving other interests than just business interests. There has been an attack on Arabian states for a long time now. I mean I agree with you, but there is a lot of shit going on down there. It's not just five cents at the gas pump although that's a major part of it.....

Mike: That's the obvious and it's the easiest for people to understand. It has put the economy in the shadows. I'm sure there are people in administration who think that a war will help the economy out.

Especially now with the Cold War over, they don't have a Soviet enemy to scapegoat anymore and justify their build up. A large part of the economy is propped up on that military-industrial complex and without the Russian scapegoat they need to promote war somewhere else and keep it going....

Mike: I just think that a lot of people, in general, are so ignorant and they just think that the attitude is "well they can only fuck with the United States so many times, the fuck with them.". It's terrifying to think

Luisa Amanda

ADAPTED FROM "Sandino's Daughters"
A BOOK BY MARGARET RANDALL



EVERYONE'S HEARD OF OMAR CABEZAS AND
HIS CONTRIBUTION TO THE NICARAGUAN
INSURRECTION...



ALMOST NO ONE REALLY KNEW LUISA AMANDA
ESPINOSA...



SHE'S BECOME A MYTH IN A WAY. THE
WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION IN NICARAGUA IS
NAMED FOR LUISA AMANDA ESPINOSA,
THE FIRST FSLN WOMAN MILITANT TO
DIE IN BATTLE.



LUISA AMANDA MOVED OUT OF HER MOTHER'S HOUSE
AND WENT TO LIVE WITH A WOMAN NAMED CARMEN.
CARMEN COLLABORATED WITH THE FSLN. SHE
HAD A SMALL SNACK BAR WHERE MANY OF THE
NEARBY FACTORY WORKERS CAME TO EAT.
CERTAIN FSLN MEMBERS ATE THERE TOO.



WHEN SHE DIED, SHE WAS 21. SHE DIED IN A
SHOOT-OUT WITH UNDERCOVER INTELLIGENCE
AGENTS.

PAULA '90

EXPORTING DESTRUCTION: Dimensions of Toxicity

Throughout history the developed world has used the developing world as its dumping grounds. It has exported its outdated technologies, its domestically banned pesticides, food and drugs (such as the controversial infant formula), and millions of tons of hazardous waste. Indeed in the third world, but also in countries such as those of Eastern Europe, the more affluent nations find their dumping haven. Says Greenpeace consultant Krysztof Symplinsky, "Since opening its borders to industrial companies from the west, Poland has been.....rewarded with the effluent of capitalism not the affluence." In fact, last October Greenpeace released a report (Poland: The waste invasion) in which it revealed 64 known cases of hazardous waste being exported from Western Europe to poorer economies in the east. In one such case, under the pretext of recycling, Poland recieved barreled shipments from West Germany; shipments which later turned out to contain dioxins and other deadly compounds. Similarly, in 1984, the Zimbabwe based corporation, Chemplex Marketing, ordered \$54,000 worth of dry cleaning liquids and degreasing solvent(s) from a U.S. based firm, Alchem-Tron Inc.. The two figures who bridged the deal were Jack and Charlie Colbert. What Chemplex received was not the pure solvent specified in the contract but barrels of toxic and corrosive poisons. Some leaking from its containers (Moyers, 1990: p.42). Zimbabwe, along with forty other developing nations have since hammered out strict legislation aimed at eliminating the unsafe practices of waste export to their countries.

"No Government" says Nigeria's President Babangida, "no matter what the financial inducement, has the right to mortgage the destiny of future generations of African children (by accepting toxic waste imports). (Suzuki and Gordon, 1990: p.137) However, far too many less developed nations don't have the necessary controls or regulatory infrastructure to deter waste from filtering through its borders. These nations often don't have the expertise to assess shipments they recieve and under false pretexts, such as recycling or from changing the definition of the matter from 'waste' to 'goods', the waste trade persists under a different name. For example, in 1986, the municipality of Philadelphia

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Above an ad appearing in the International Herald Tribune recruiting investors for the waste industry.

signed a contract with a Philadelphia waste contractor named Joseph Paolino to safely dispose of 200,000 tons of incinerator ash. Paolino, after failing to dispose of the waste after 27 months subcontracted with Amalgamated Shipping Corp. who through their deceitfulness, found a host nation in Haiti. Haiti began to accept shipments of the ash when it was told falsely that the material was fertilizer. When Haiti learned of the nature of the true contents of the material it ordered it back to Amalgamated. But it is still stuck with 4,000 tons of ash on its beaches (Moyers, 1990: p.24). P. Diven of Oxfam America wrote;

....For those who understand the historical context of third world poverty, toxic dumping is just one more link in a chain of exploitation that has impoverished people throughout Africa and the Carribean (Wynne, 1989: p.121).

The toughening of legislation in industrial nations, as well as rising disposal costs and public resistance, makes third world dumping the path of least resistance. While proper disposal of waste in rich countries cost \$1000/ton (in 1988) some Western African nations have accepted it for \$40/ton. "Transferring these 'local' emissions" writes Brian Wynne in Third World Quarterly "into packed, humanly transferrable, and tradeable wastes allows environmental costs to be imposed upon distant societies who are unable to gain access to even a little of the consumption that generates the waste." (Ibid: p.145). Source reduction is the only immediate solution to the waste problem because current regulations which merely redistribute the environmental and human risk is plainly unacceptable on moral grounds.

Pesticides are another example of the way in which material that is rejected in the first world often ends up in poorer economies. The United States produces a fourth of the world's pesticides and 25% of that figure is either banned or severely restricted due to their toxicity level. Pesticides which are banned for use in the United States can be produced for export as long as the crop its used on is not exported back to the United States (Gordon and Suzuki, 1990: p.135). Currently, the U.S. Senate is looking at a Bill (the Pesticides

Reform Act) which the National Coalition Against the Use of Pesticides calls "A severely compromised yet postive step (in controlling the) export of hazardous pesticides."

And in yet another economic endeavor to exploit the third world, western corporations machiavelliously convince mothers in developing nations that imported infant formula is a helpful substitute to breast milk. In truth, if breast feeding is stopped in the early stages of post-natal care the mother ceases to produce milk. Dependent on the costly formula she may mix with contaminated water or dilute it to make it last longer. Consequently, potential health implications arise. (Council on Economic Priorities, 1989: p.238). The marketing of the baby food as a commercial commodity is formidable as it does not yield to any code of ethics. The World Health Organization (W.H.O.) in 1981 adopted an international code to regulate the marketing of breast milk substitutes. When Nestle's failed to abide by the code, their producers were targetted in a boycott which lasted from 1977 - 1984. Finally, in 1984, Nestle's buckled under the pressure. Just recently Nestle's has started to sink below the international health standards and so the boycott has been reinstated (INFACT). The export of infant formula is an adversity to third world development. If industrialized nations are genuinely concerned about health in developing nations they should contribute to safe health care, literacy, self-sufficiency and the elimination of augmenting debts - the obvious equation for advancement.

All in all, the root of these problems lie in the industrial world ; in a society where individuals define themselves by what they own rather than what they think or do; in the misconception that our earth can indefinitely and without adversity sustain first world lifestyles; on the throwaway society where the conception is that trash vanishes with the garbage truck and where the battlecry is 'convenience or death'. What must be realized is that first world affluence has a price to pay. It is a myth to believe that economic growth can only mean progress. We are engaged in a zero-sum reality where economic development is offset by the endangerement to animal life, ecological degradation, and human suffering. ●

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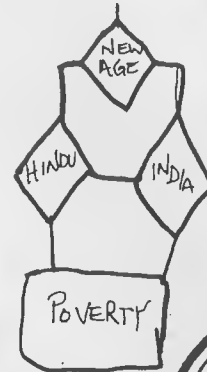
For more information on Breast Milk Substitutes and the Nestles Boycott contact INFACT at 10 Trinity Sq., Toronto, M59 1B1 Canada.

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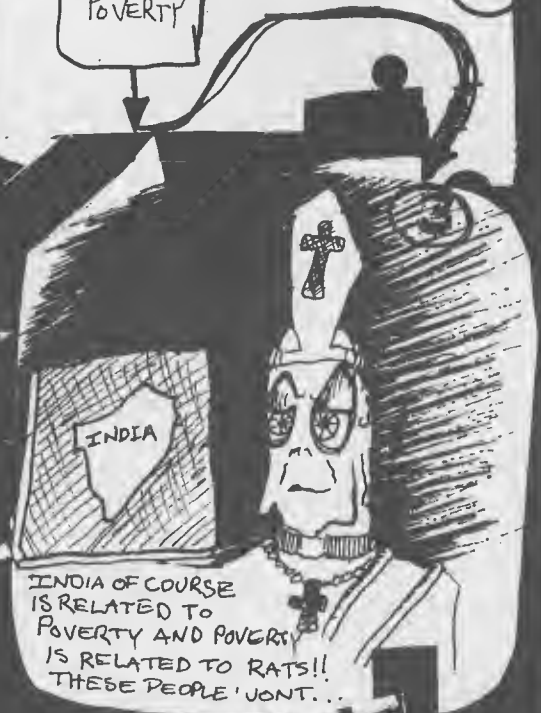


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PROBLEM, YEAH
HE MIGHT WORKED
ON A WACKY SET
OF PRE-CONCEPTIONS
BUT ARE YOURS
THAT MUCH
DIFFERENT

THE MORAL DUPE
IS
LEAVE NO SPACE
FOR INTER-
PRETATION

* THIS IS ART O.K. *



Canada in the Gulf

Does the U.S. need an escort

As we go to press, a war has just been initiated by the U.S. in the Persian Gulf region. The fear that I may be called up to die for this war soon has me asking myself "Why is Canada even in the Gulf?". I've asked a lot of my friends this very same question. It was never for democracy. Wasn't that the first justification Bush used? Prior to the invasion, Kuwait was one of the most oppressive monarchies. Only 8 percent of the population were allowed to vote, all 8 of which were men. Does that tell you something about who we are defending? It's not because of the oil. We have our own reserves out west. It's not because we need to sell armaments to prop up our military-industrial complex. With the Cold war over, the U.S. has a monopoly on that. Besides that would hardly be the appropriate way for a peace keeping nation, such as our own, to act. It's not because we are concerned about international law. The United States breaks international laws daily and we are willing to do anything they ask of us. It's not because our economy is on the downswing and war is good for business. The world's weapons manufacturers are now based in the United States and only their economy would be affected. It's not because war takes the attention away from our own domestic problems, like this summer's invasion on the Mohawk nation or the recession. It's not for any single reason, but more likely the culmination of all of these and a few more. After all, the more features a product has, the easier it is to sell to the people and the governments of the world. With the exception of Yemen and Cuba, the U.S. has done their damndest to make this war appealing to everybody on some level.

Despite the motives, the one thing that I keep hearing from people when asked why we are in the gulf is that we are there as some sort of symbolic gesture in support of our allies. So this is what it's come to; **image construction**. We need to look good for our allies. We need to constantly reaffirm our position as on their side. We sound like a bunch of insecure kids. "We're going to do whatever (uncle) Sam says so that he knows we're still his friends". Well we're spending an awful lot of money (money that we don't have) just so that we can hang out with our friends. You have to ask yourself, what kind of a friend requires money to hang out with them, in the first place. What we are talking about here is **war** and there are some very real consequences of national debt, civilian deaths, environmental destruction, and countless other things that will affect us permanently; and this analogy of nations as friends has allowed us to minimize the

BABBLE - ON

By Stephen Perry

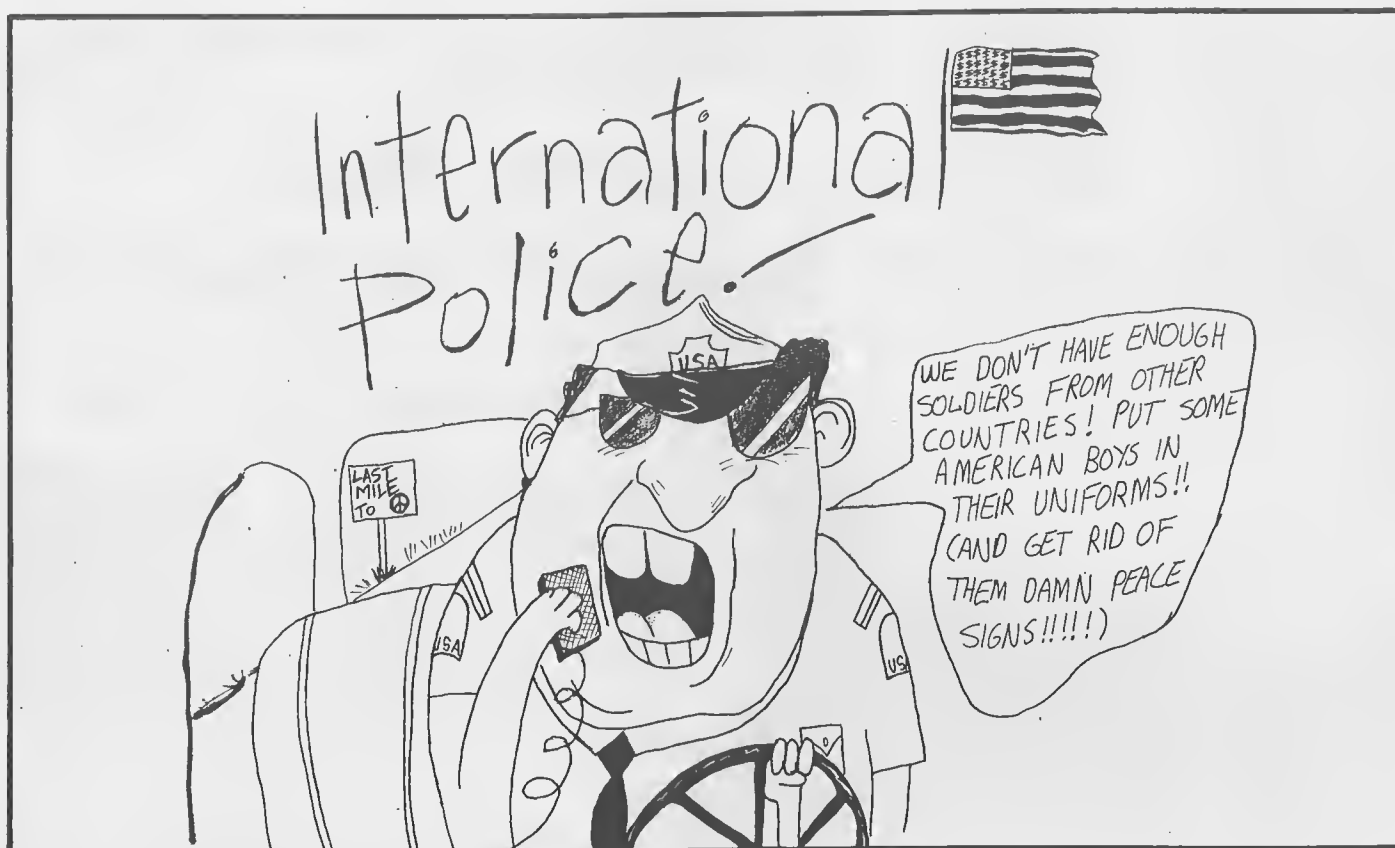


consequences of this war into nothing more than a school yard fight. Well, I wish it were that simple.

The media has furthered this simplification of the conflict by placing value judgements on the key participants. The U.S. position has been characterized as one yearning for diplomacy and peaceful means. However Noam Chomsky, one of the leading critics on U.S. foreign policy for the region, warns that: ".... We can expect to read of 'the American effort to keep attention focused on diplomacy and sanctions, not the drums of war' - when in fact the effort is to block the diplomatic track, reject negotiations, and keep to force and coercion, under an international cover, if possible....." (Chomsky, 1990; 28). The U.S. media has fallen into the cheerleading roles that propaganda machines served in earlier wars. The roots of the initial conflict between Iraq and Kuwait have become blurred, and as a result, the reasons for this war have become overshadowed by U.S. disinformation.

So that brings us back to what has Canada's role been in the gulf prior to the January 16th bombing of Baghdad? Aside from the rhetorical role of support, Canada has provided the west with an air of credibility. For the last 40 years, our national identity has been built up around our peacekeeping role. When Canada entered the gulf, we gave the west some sort of legitimacy. It was infuriating to witness our reputation being hijacked by the powers that be and not being able to do a thing about it. However this 'fall in line as the loyal junior partner' has been Canada's role in U.S. relations for some time now. Maybe it's about time we devised our own foreign policy independent of the U.S.'s. This was something that I would consider as an action towards Canada's better interest.

Next, Canada has been instrumental in the transition of the United Nation's purpose. The U.N. has been an international peace organization for all these



years and that seemed to work in a bi-polar world (ie. U.S. vs. U.S.S.R.) because the developed countries kept each other under check. However with the Cold war thawing, the U.N. has lost this opposition. It is likely that the U.N. will become another organization for the developed world to gang up on the developing world. The U.N. will no longer have the potential to resolve international disputes. Although most of this was beyond our control, Canada has still been instrumental, with their voting privilege as a non-permanent member of the security council in 1990. Their voting to move into the Persian Gulf and press for a January 15th deadline has transformed the U.N. from an instrument of peace into an instrument of war. Furthermore, the common misconception is that the U.N. passed this resolution, however it is important to realize that U.S. only has the backing of the security council. The security council is made up of only 15 members (nations) of the General Assembly. To this date, there has been no debate on the Kuwait invasion in the General Assembly (the rest of the non western world). So the world as a whole is not necessarily behind the mobilization in the gulf.

This U.S. construction of world support is the result of isolation practises peculiar to propaganda. This is usually coupled by the discrediting of Arab peoples. It is important to note that these racist constructions will have severe implications for years to come. The press have made us overlook the fact that these moves by the west are an attack on Islam. This is just one of many perspectives overlooked by the racist media fabrications of the west. We need to ask ourselves what right do we, or anyone for that matter,

have to be telling Arabs how to organize their affairs, let alone be in their countries. By jumping on the bandwagon of U.S. foreign policy we have sided with the imperialist powers of the west to invade the middle east (the most holiest place in the Islamic world). This is no way for a peace keeping nation to act.

Regardless of how you want to see it, this war is more than just a conflict of perspectives. It is an oil war and oil is hardly something to die for. 40 to 50 percent of all deaths are already directly or indirectly linked to environmental diseases created by the burning of fossil fuels. Therefore, we don't need this war because oil is something we already die for, daily. Perhaps the elevated oil prices will convince the governments of our need to pursue other cheaper and cleaner energy sources (renewable sources like solar and tidal). Oil is not something worth dying for. Neither are greedy oil executives and you know that it is their interests we protect when Bush speaks of our interests.

War is not the answer, especially when there have been so many negotiation offers rejected by the U.S. As you start peeling back the information that the U.S. has suppressed, you will come to realize that the U.S. doesn't have a leg to stand on. They get the support they have because they are the world's military leader. This self appointed role of international police force is a joke when measured to their status as the chief violator of international law. In my eyes, the U.S. is ill suited to be wearing the badge of international police, but the question we need to be asking ourselves in these times is do we really want to be their deputy ?

BLISS



Robzine.

Montreal has been the home of a fairly healthy alternative music scene for some time now and Bliss are slowly coming to be recognized as Montreal's newest offering. Their blend of free jazz and hardcore has them experimenting with a unique sound that is geared towards

revolutionizing the scene's music. The following discussion ensued at Marsh's T.V. and appliance centre prior to their December 1st gig at the Rivoli. Mike Sted helped keep the conversation moving along (focused).

Introduce yourselves and tell us what you do in the band.....

Sylvain: I'm Sylvain and I play bass.

Mike: I'm Mike and I play guitar.

How did you guys come together to form a band.....

Mike: Initially, it started with our old singer who knew Colin, who knew me. We got together and started jamming. I knew Sylvain from a greasy spoon in Montreal and we

asked him to come along. The rest is history.

Sylvain: Most musicians in Montreal always promise each other to jam, but they never do it. We got caught. We had no choice (laughter). We jammed just to be polite. So we did and it worked.

What were your reasons for starting a band together.....

Sylvain: I don't know. It was not the kind of band I wanted to do....That

was some kind of free jazz noise band so the only circuit you can play is art galleries or certain festivals of new music and stuff like this. I want to bring this stuff to hardcore audiences because hardcore audiences are the audiences that support new stuff. And that type of music is really important as a reason of living, so I thought it would be interesting to bring another sound to this audience so I decided that I could help. I'll go into a rock band and I'll see what I can do out of

it. I met those guys and it worked right away. I wouldn't have stuck in the band if people weren't really.....not just good players, but really have ideas about good music and didn't want just to play a regular kind of thing.

Mike: Yeah, I just like....I really enjoy playing live. And because the band works so well, playing live is a treat.

Does the name Bliss have any significance ? How did you come up with the name.....

Sylvain: Iain, the first singer, came up with the name. I don't really remember why ?

Mike: It came up out of.....Iain's idea was this....Do you know Joseph Campbell, the mythologist - the guy who studies myths. Anyway he came up with this idea that bliss was the path to follow to make your life perfect or something like that. The reason why I like it is because it's open to many interpretations and it's not something that categorizes us exactly. For one thing, playing with a lot of bands like **Gore Guts** and all these bands that have names that have definite connotations, whereas Bliss could be a 70's pop band, it could be....

Sylvain: It's not a tough name. It's more interesting if your not called **Fuck You Asshole** and go on stage and try to play Metallica and flex your muscle and stuff like this. So if you're called Bliss and you go and play fairly rough music, but try to have lots of heart into it. I find it just kind of refreshing.

Mike: Also, it's one syllable.

The new demo kills. What is the meaning behind the title (ie. No Saints, No Clowns, No Targets)....

Sylvain: The whole hardcore scene, like from the beginning of the 80's, had mainly three subjects. Talking against religion, talking about how much the government tried to control your life and suck all your money off, and always have a finger pointing on something. But now, once you know exactly....., we just spent a whole era, about 8 or 9 years, of pointing out the same thing. We know exactly what the things are that we don't

want to deal with, what sucks, and so forth, but you still have to keep going and make something.

Mike: Yeah you can't keep dwelling on finger pointing. You have to get past the finger pointing stage and start working towards something else.

Sylvain: So what will you talk about or what kind of music will you play ? Once you don't want this you have to build something....not something new, but you still have to write songs about something. We don't write about flowers and things. I think our lyrics and music are still politically oriented as much as possible, but instead of finger pointing.

Mike: Yeah, people always equate political stances with the names you mentioned in your songs. The way you interpret those names in the songs or something like that. It comes to a point where anybody can do it and it means nothing. We have to get past that stage.

Past the stage of scapegoating....

Mike: Yeah. That's what I'm saying like "the government's bad". Well no shit, but what are you going to do about it ?

Don't you find that complacency and petulance and constant repetition of the scene is actually sucked out of just general culture. Would it be a response to that to...that since that period of time we've, as a culture, approached reality the same way since the beginning of the hardcore movement ? Like at first it had a lot of things to say and then it just became complacent working on the same thing.....

Sylvain: But it is hard to be complacent in the same way because almost every band that writes lyrics uses the word 'love' and 'friends' and 'sister'. So I think we are going to have to rebuild a whole new discourse. Like **Soul Side** pretty much base all their songs on friendship, love, and girlfriends or whatever.

I've heard that you guys have a booking agent/ manager type

of thing. That suggests a lot of things. First off, why did you get her.....

Mike: We initially got her because we found we were spending more time organizing things for the band than actually writing the music and from my point of view, we are there to make the music, we're not there to organize things for the band. Now that sounds kind of lame ass, but there comes a point when the organizing takes away from the creative side and if you just end up becoming a manager for yourself than there is no real point in being in a band. Also it helps that one person organizes everything so you don't have three people booking a tour and getting everything confused. Not that we've had tours that big that that would happen, it just helps to have everything based with one person.

Does she work as a fifth member..

Sylvain: Not so far, but she is trying to get to this point. We still have a problem about music and the business side of music and more the pleasure of playing and playing with our friends band and stuff. So we are just sitting between two chairs now.

Has that brought up any problems with the band with this friends playing with friends relationship ? I could see how it might. A business oriented person who is not in the clique might not be sensitive to your friendships.....

Mike: That's the trouble. We haven't been able to adjust to that yet and so things have happened that we had no idea about. We found out later. We're not here to make...I mean there is no money really to be made, we just want to cover expenses, but we don't want to dick other people around while it's happening. I mean if we made a lot of money than there would be enough money for everyone. If there is not enough money than why quibble over ten or twenty dollars. It's not like you're not getting any money.

Sylvain: And of course when you start to have lots of coverage and get

your face on Much Music and all that sort of stuff, people start thinking that you want to be a rock star and all this whole attitude, but whatever is..... I think that hardcore bands should get their face on Much Music. That's the way something will "Hey Ho. One Blood on Much Music". It makes a big difference.

People will recognize that hardcore still exists.....

Mike: Yeah and also that hardcore doesn't just turn inwards on itself because if it does it just...well I mean it has...it becomes narcissistic and sort of dissipated, but if you take the energy and sort of force it outwards and try to get other people to...people who wouldn't normally be exposed to hardcore. I bet most people watching Much Music don't know what the term 'hardcore' means. So you've got to reach out and grab other people other than the people that always come to the shows.

What do you guys have planned for the next little while.....

Sylvain: We want to be signed. We want to have a record out so that more people will know about the band. From that we can start touring a lot, not necessarily....it would be nice to make a living out of it, but of course at the most you can just quit your job and do your band and just use your creative side and that's all that you have to deal with. That's pretty much our plan and try to get the band really solid together, and reinvest our sound a bit, trying to do exactly what we are doing.

Mike: The thing about it is if we could somehow live off of the music it would be great because then you could work on the band as a full time job and not have to worry about other things. So you could be more analytical about the music. You could really work it.

Don't you think that kind of also creates a different situation where you're dealing purely with the aesthetic point of view in the band and you're removed from the reality that created it in the first place. Like the reason why you started doing it was because you were going "Fuck !".....



robz'ine.

Sylvain: Yeah, but you still have a life. Even if you just work for the band you still live and stuff.

Mike: Yeah, it's not like we're going to get mansions in California or something like that. We won't be far removed. We'll still be living in the same places and seeing the same people it's just that we won't have

to...Sylvain won't have to pack records at Cargo kind of thing.

Sylvain: Yeah, I don't want to have a band whose purpose is to say how much I hate my job and stuff like that. Yeah I hate my job and it's going to give me energy to swear about the things that I hate, but if I don't hate my job and my life is great I'll still

be more helpful to bring people around and help myself.

Mike: Yeah your point is well taken. You have to remember where you come from, but you don't have to stay there all your life. Basically we're trying to get a record out. It's very difficult....I mean we've been around for two and a half years and we had a show in Montreal. We handed out about a thousand flyers and when you give them to people and they go "What's this?", "Who are you?". It's very disappointing and depressing.

Sylvain: Anyway in working with just the band and not having a job it's not easy living. Your frustrated and poor, but I don't care because it's the only way to be free and do exactly what I want. I want to play music. I don't know like when you believe in what your doing and that your music is good and that's why your doing it, you develop some sort of a....not a didactic side, but you think of yourself as some sort of a social educator. It sounds really pretentious, but that's the only word I have to say. Like I'm sure your band One Blood, you think you have lots to say and there is lots of people who don't know what you want to say and you want to expand. Those things are still around even if you're not talking about it. It's not just an aesthetic. You can't say "Fuck those

things because it sounds great" and people will like us. Those things are still real.

Mike: It's trouble because you want to change the system. How do you do that? Do you stay away from the system and try and work at it that way or do you get involved in the system and try and work within. And that's the trouble with trying to get a record contract because ...like the big independent labels are basically money making organizations and so are you selling out because you're trying to get a record contract or are you just trying to approach a larger audience where you can get different people involved in different things. Something out of the ordinary. It's really difficult because you are getting sucked into the whole selling-buying system, but at the same time it would just be too difficult to approach the same amount of people.

Sylvain: I think we're pretty much in-between that that if the band gets pretty big it means that there is a big money side to it because you need lots of money to get the band going all over the world. There is that and then how you get your band known is by selling merchandise. It's really uncomfortable to be there. We don't want to be a new thing that people are going to buy because the music is cool and is representative of what the

people like now and that our singer is black and has dreadlocks and our drummer has bleached hair and long hair and is what looks cool and in one year it's going to be a new thing. That's always pretty scary.

Just back to what we were talking about before, earlier today when we were talking about the cash situation and stuff and how much you guys were sweating it, the wierd part that I was dealing with was like it seems like, from my point of view, you didn't want to deal with that, but then you got somone to deal with it for you and then you were kind of going, "I still don't want to deal with it, but now there is someone else dealing with it for me and I still don't even like that and I'm really stuck that way".....

Mike: Yeah it's tough and you can't not deal with it, just because it's there and you have to deal with it. It would be best if we could clone one of the members and use that clone to do all the money stuff because then you would know exactly what...The thing about getting a manager is that a manager will not always realize that it's the band that is important, it's not the managing that is important and that's the thing that comes first.

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You have to figure out what the band wants and it's difficult because there is a lot of confusion. You can get dicked around.

It's tough because it adds a different element to the band that is not in touch with everyone else.

Sylvain: Yeah. Of course. That's the job of management. To get the band to succeed everywhere, but we've been playing a long time just playing with friends and stuff and we want to keep this side going, so it is really ambiguous what we do now or it will become a hassle that everyone is going to pay, but be really successful or whatever....

Mike: Yeah, but I wouldn't want to be successful and tromp over everyone else. It's not worth it. I mean money isn't worth fucking other people around.

Sylvain: And there is no money to make really.

Mike: Yeah, it's not like there is millions of dollars involved. It's five and dime stuff. As I said, if there was a lot of money than everyone would have money and if there is no money than there is no point in arguing over five or ten bucks. It's not worth it.

Sylvain: It's easier when the band gets self-sufficient that you don't have to work to pay for the recording. You just play a show and you use that money to record.

Is there any truth to the rumours that Derek might be leaving.....

Sylvain: I don't think so.

I heard there was some tension with his parents.....

Sylvain: Oh yeah, but Derek's parents don't know that he is in a band. I don't know if he came to Montreal and went to school just so it's a cover to be in a band so that his parents don't know about it, but at the same time he's in school and that's good for him, but it is difficult for the band because we play with him really rarely.

Mike: Yeah I think it's more like it's an adjustment period and because there is an adjustment period sometimes tensions build. Someone hears about those tensions and suddenly "Derek's Leaving the Band".

Well the thing is, you can't really separate yourself from your situation. I mean a lot of bands are criticizing things like oil companies because oil companies rape the land, but the bands use gas to get to the shows....

So this is just an exaggeration.....

Sylvain: Yes and no. We thought of going separate ways, but we said we'll play this show and we'll see after. We played the show and we realized that we can't really go our separate ways.

Mike: Yeah, Derek is an integral part of the band now. It would be like ripping off a leg or something. All three of us would be flopping around bleeding to death. You see I think the problem is that people hear rumours and they automatically think it is engraved in stone and it's like "Well that's it. That's it. It's the end of the world." kind of thing and that's just not the case. It never is. I mean everything changes everyday.

Sylvain: Of course there is always lots of tensions in bands. Like everybody hates each other and then we are best friends, but that's part of the creative process.

Mike: Yeah, but that's what helps make the band. Just because you have that tension evolved. If everything was peachy, you know like everything being perfect, it would be the Beach Boys. I don't want to play in the Beach Boys.

Sylvain: That's pretty much where our sound is coming from. The tension. Nobody is coming from the same background at all and we all try to impose our vision of music on each other and it's working when nobody felt that they were really compromised, but were satisfied with the result. We get a song out of that. But there's lots of fights, lots of arguments, lots of tensions. After a year and a half you know that even if you've had fights over all those things, that's part of the creative process. You don't go home and say "Fuck I hate those guys. I'm just going to quit the band." Okay I'm going to take a week and try to develop these songs.

Mike: Yeah I don't think that anybody put the light on that argument. It's just part of the human condition. And if you're in a band...especially if you're in a band, you have to work, you have to go to school, and all this. If you come to the band, you have more responsibility in that you have to be respectful of other people's opinions, but at the same time there is less of a responsibility to come on the outside. It's always within. You have to be responsible for the other people that you are working with and so, like at work you can't be rude to the boss because you'll get fired, you can't not go to school or you'll get kicked out. There is always that external authority, but within the band you're four, one among equals.

Sylvain: When you start playing in a band with people, I see those guys and we practise six times a week. It's a lot of time with people that maybe at first I would never choose to be friends with and spend much more time with them than I would with my girlfriend. So of course, your personalities don't always go together, but you have to...I don't know not be dramatic....

Mike: You see the thing is, you've made the choice of being in a band, so you have to work with them. If you can't live with it, then there is no point in the band continuing.

These individual questions are like a Freudian set me back on the couch thing. How did you first get hooked up in the alternative scene? Thinking back to when you first got involved, think.... how did you get involved.....

Sylvain: I think it was pretty gradual. My family is not exactly the intellectual family and I was always pretty frustrated. I had no stimulations. I started hanging out

with my friends' family where the two brothers were teachers and were really involved with the Marxist community...if there is such a thing as the Marxist community....and it was pretty much the F.L.Q. time and all that stuff so I thought "That's pretty interesting. That's real stimulation." They were listening to lots of free jazz and jazz and so I started listening to that a lot. So I spent all this energy listening to lots of jazz and the hardcore started and I found that it was the same energy. That it was real interesting and it makes the old jazz thing evolve into something that we liked. So I started getting interested. Going to all the shows. You don't really know why, it just came that you fit with those people. So there you go to those shows, and you like it. I guess it just happened.

Mike: For me it was more exciting musically just because previously to that I was listening to Genesis and things like that, which I still like. I don't deny what I use to like, but I'd pick up, let's say "London Calling" by **The Clash**, which is now 'a classic'. It was on the top ten list of Rolling Stones 'Best albums of all time', but it was something different, something new. That brings you into other things like hardcore. I mean compare a show at the Sky Dome with Poison and compare that to a show like last night (**Ed note:** is making reference to the Shoefly, Revelation Zero show at the Joint on November 1). For one thing, you go to a show at the Joint and you're a lot more involved. You're part of the show. You're not like a spectator. There is not that distance between the two so you feel a lot more involved. I mean there is a difference between watching t.v. and going to a hardcore show. Even if you just sit at a hardcore show, it's not a unidirectional dialogue. There is always the response of the audience, whether they sit, whether they jump around, throw things....

Sylvain: We are really living through an era of passivity. People are becoming more and more passive. I heard a whole lot that doing a stupid thing is a good reason to do it because it's stupid. We've heard that a lot in

Montreal. Like

"Hey lets do that."

"Why?"

"It's stupid."

"Yeah?"

"Yeah. It's great. It's stupid."

Mike: In a way, that could be considered a reaction. I don't like that reaction. Like I don't like being stupid just to show that things are stupid. You can show that things are stupid and not be stupid about it.

Well it depends on which approach you take. You can take the bombastic twit approach or you could also be like classical Shakespearean characters, who through their stupidity were actually explaining and showing you what your situation was. It depends on the amount of conceptual continuity....

Mike: Yeah, well this is just it, but a 'Fuck' band is never a Shakespearean experience you know. It's always like "We're dumb."

And of course you discount any information that they might be giving you or anything that they are saying to you because your first reaction is that they are a stupid band. You've also got to look at what....you guys are really serious and stuff and what I see with a lot of that is a lot of where you guys are coming from is lost because serious is also analagous with machismo and of course that's got nothing to do with thought....

Sylvain: We want to promote intelligence, but more and more it seems that intelligence is equal with being pretentious or something. It's really strange.

Mike: That's why I like at our live shows, we don't get up there and sort of suck in our cheeks, you know or get the fan blowing our hair back.

Sylvain: We take our shirts off.

Mike: Yeah, we take our shirts off because we're hot not because we want to show the muscle tattoos and sit there and pick out the chick in the audience that you are going to pick up later or things like that. So like because we play hard music, it's

involved. And so when we play live we try to take a completely laid back, you know, 'We're having fun' attitude so people don't think that they're up there posing and posturing because....

Sylvain: We're having this 'having fun' attitude, but we go shit six times before we go on stage out of nerves I suppose.

How do you see things that are going on? Western thought has a tendency to simplify things into good or bad. Where do you stand or do you even subscribe to this paradigm at all.....

Sylvain: We always make fun of that actually. I call this the Arsenio Hall philosophy. I watched it the other night and he said to somebody;

"So what you're trying to say is.....you took something bad or something negative and turned it into something positive. That's good."

Mike: Real life isn't like that. I mean sure there are completely bad things and completely good things, but....

But Arsenio is black, he's not grey and that's why it works that way....

Mike: Yeah and he was interviewing a white guy, therefore black and white.....No really there is a whole grey scale in terms of bad - black / good - white and all that kind of stuff. There are so many interpretations as to what. There is no right or wrong. You can simplify things or ignore them. That's part of it. You ignore things - you simplify things.

Sylvain: But everything that is blocking positive change I think that's what it comes down to. Not whether it's a matter of good or bad.

The reason why I brought that up is because a lot of people have certain icons in the scene and they have this sort of overall philosophy that lines up with 'Man is essentially good' / 'Man is essentially bad'. Taking it back to the Rousseau/ Hobbes debate. And I was just wondering where you might stand.....

Mike: Well the thing is, you can't really separate yourself from your situation. I mean a lot of bands are criticizing things like oil companies

because oil companies rape the land, but the bands use gas to get to the shows. They don't see that there is....no separation there. They're using something that they are condemning. It's not a bad thing to condemn oil companies, but at the same time you have to realize that we drove from Montreal to here and we spent a hundred and fifty dollars on gas. That hundred and fifty dollars isn't going to help save the rainforests or anything. It's going to line the pockets of some oil executive. But we wouldn't be able to play to you.

Well I think it was Atwood who said something along the lines that if you support causes you might as well not do anything because you have to fully support the cause and by fully supporting it you can't do anything because our world has such a tight infrastructure of different things. Your screwed that way....

Mike: If you pull one string here you are pulling all the other threads that are attached to it. You're not

separated from the society your in. You just can't.

Sylvain: But I think it's better to use the gas and talk about what Exxon is doing on a stage in front of a lot of people and maybe you won't....just think that Exxon..... "yeah maybe they're not so great like those shows say on t.v. All those happy people using their gas and stuff like this." There is lots of counter propaganda to do a lot, but like Derek just bought this....it's really insane. Fischer Price has a Mc Donald's worker outfit.

Mike: A little Mc Donald's outfit for kids. A little cap, a little apron, and a skillet, so that kids can pretend that they are making a burger.

Sylvain:working at Mc Donald's for four bucks an hour.

Mike: That's like "Oh that's a nice thing for a kid to do", but then when you think about it they go "Oh great. So the kid, when he gets a two dollar an hour job cooking burgers he'll go "Oh. This is just what I expected life to be and therefore I'm happy. " It's like this is a part of my life. That's sick.

Sylvain: It's not even disguised anymore.

Sted: Well yeah, it's like programming for a franchise economy and it's almost taking away the regionality of the culture.....

Mike: Yeah like McDonald's is everywhere.

Yeah and because of that when you start putting it in on the level of toys and things like that, things that destroy your culture, your culture disappears really quickly. And then your regionality disappears with you and that's about all you got really as an individual, where you are. That's a big problem.....

Sylvain: You can study that in the (costume's influence), but it's the real thing. It says Mc Donald's on the thing.

Mike: Yeah it isn't some unknown made up company that makes burgers. It's a miniature Mc Donald's outfit.

Sylvain: The next thing is going to be the Fisher Price punk outfit. It's time to do something about this. ●

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PAUL GETS...THE FINAL WORD

Well well well. Lets kick it out. There is a growing problem (isn' t there always ?) in the hardcore/alternative community that has me quite distressed. It is the overpopulation of apathetic consumers who think that their major contribution to 'the scene' should be passing out at shows. Now before you begin to fear this be a straight x edge rant, read on. In the past year, I' ve lost count of the number of times I' ve been told to lighten up and develop a sense of humour. Joke hardcore bands are flooding the scene screaming punk rock pre-pubescent anthems geared to the minds of 8 year olds. And these Billy Milano wannabes who discovered hardcore six months ago, now whine that "the scene has too many political bands" and hold a "we' re not into politics or anything, we just wanna have fun" ethic. Well if that' s the case, then go join the Cyndi Lauper band. Folks, this here music should be about change. It' s not that hardcore has become more political, it' s that younger folks (I' m speaking here as the dinosaur I' ve been referred to) weren' t there in the early years, and really haven' t experienced what a true alternative can accomplish. Hardcore is political. It should be political. It must be political if it is to retain any of its

vitality, integrity, and sense of purpose. Hardcore once was an outlet for untalented musicians to have a voice. That voice has now been stifled by "superior" musicians who grew up on the music of Bon Jovi and Guns and Roses, and who think that hardcore is just another musical form. It ain' t. At least I' m going to fight to see that it doesn' t become that. For me it was always something more. And that something is the ability to effect change - change for the better. So while most bands feel that it is their job to entertain and provide the listener with a vacation from their problems, hardcore should force you to face up to and realize those problems, and for fuck' s sake get you to do something about it. Isn' t that infinitely more important ? Because once you throw away the mohawks, the fast drumming, and the snarling vocals, it' s just rock'n roll if it ain' t saying something of worth. And you know, this reason this dinosaur was attracted to this music in the first place was 'cause he hated rock 'n roll.

Responses are welcomed,

Abrash

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A.Y.F.

FEDERATION

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Recently, a Toronto chapter of the A.Y.F. was started up. At present the collective is fairly small, but they are looking for contributions, correspondence, volunteers (not necessarily anarchist),...things to distribute of any kind. Their aim is to communicate, educate, and get people involved in the anarchist movement. They have a distribution service for flyers, zines, records, and literature. They have also organized an anti-fur demo, so watch for more actions in the future.

It's hard, being alone.
 Try to pull people closer
 but push them away with words of hate and violence
 pouring out, from some pit of despair deep within.
 Sleepless nights turn to endless days
 where errors in judgement seem to control my fate.
 And at night,
 I wrestle with demons
 tearing away at the fibres of my soul
 leaving blackness in their wake.
 Wake, I must.
 Leave the demons behind in a troubled sleep.
 But still they haunt me,
 in my head,
 voices, leading me astray, pushing away,
 the people I care for the most.
 And I find that it's hard being alone.

Loneliness,
 welling up inside of me,
 threatening to smother me with it's magnitude.
 Today I find no joy in watching others,
 All I feel is a desire to be a part of something,
 anything.

Drunk again? or still?
 It's hard to tell anymore.
 I sit alone with my thoughts
 listening to the incoherent babble of those around me
 while music spews forth from some unknown source
 and I find I'm content,
 for a brief time.
 Gaining some comfort
 from the laughter and smiles around me.
 Is this insanity
 living vicariously
 through others' experiences?
 Not wanting in
 no need to converse
 just listening.
 If so....insanity's fine.

Sometimes I get tired
 Tired of all the games, the mindfucks, the wind ups,
 and all the general bullshit
 people lay out.
 Sometimes when your alone with someone,
 the facade is dropped.
 You see a person for what they really are.
 Sometimes scared, sometimes lonely,
 but usually so fucking real.
 It's usually just quick glimpses,
 then they catch themselves and put the mask back on.
 But for that moment
 they were really there
 and it was so beautiful
 your wonder why they bother with the lies.
 But you never ask
 and life goes on.
 No wonder I'm so fucked up.

Poetry by Jeff Thompson

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Legatus is an elite Catholic Club of millionaires trying to keep god and christ alive in the cut-throat world of high finance. Eligible members must be the head of a corporation doing at least \$4 million in sales. Thomas Monaghan, the founder and chief executive officer of Domino's pizza, is also the founder and chief of Legatus.

Any Large Pizza with 3 or more toppings, or Medium Pizza with 5 or more toppings probably helps support the Word of God.



Word of God (W.O.G.) is a destructive cult that refers to their members as 'the chosen people' and relies on exorcism for countering demons of rebelliousness, independence, feminism, isolation, etc. (according to a W.O.G. internal document) W.O.G. is bankrolled by Legatus and is a front for about 50 umbrella religious organizations such as; Sword of the Spirit (S.O.S.) in the U.S. and Faith, Intercession, Repentance and Evangelism (F.I.R.E.) in Canada.

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In 1983, W.O.G. secretly established the Puebla Institute to publish material critical of the Sandinista government. The first book published by the institute, Christians Under Fire, was partly written and financed by the C.I.A. Since then W.O.G. has broadened their counter-insurgency efforts to include places like the Phillippines and El Salvador.

Any Large Pizza with 7 or more toppings helps set back women's rights.



Monaghan is one of the leading sugar daddies to the anti-choice forces in the U.S., contributing over \$110,000 to various groups who oppose a woman's choice on abortion. It was also discovered that a house owned by Domino's has been used as the headquarters for a Michigan unit of Operation Rescue. These and other actions have sparked a national boycott by the National Organization of Women.

Expires With the Human Race